

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

IN RECOGNITION OF STUART ROSSMAN, OUTGOING DIRECTOR OF THE JEWISH COMMUNITY RELATIONS COUNCIL OF GREATER BOSTON

**HON. STEPHEN F. LYNCH**

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 9, 2010*

Mr. LYNCH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Stuart Rossman who will be stepping down on June 9, 2010 as President of the Jewish Community Relations Council of Greater Boston.

An honors graduate of the University of Michigan and Harvard Law School, Mr. Rossman has dedicated himself to working for social justice, ensuring the well-being of the State of Israel and building a strong Jewish community in the greater Boston area. As an adjunct faculty member at both the Northeastern University School of Law and at the Suffolk University Law School, he trains and educates the next generation of lawyers and legal scholars.

Throughout his legal career, during which he served in the Massachusetts Attorney General's office and in his current post with the National Consumer Law Center, a national advocacy organization for low-income consumer justice, he has stood up for those whose voices are seldom heard. Mr. Rossman has brought together partners across ethnic and religious lines to speak out for what is right.

Mr. Rossman has also been a strong supporter of Israel and of the Jewish community. During his term as Chairman of the United Jewish Appeal Young Leadership Cabinet from 1991 to 1992, he led a solidarity mission to Israel during the Persian Gulf War and led the 8th Annual UJA Young Leadership Conference in Washington, attended by the late Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin and over 3,000 participants. In addition to his work with the Jewish Community Relations Council of Greater Boston, he has been actively involved in the Combined Jewish Philanthropies, where he has served on its Executive Committee and Board. He also served as President of the Bureau of Jewish Education, President of the Massachusetts Association of Jewish Federations and Chair of the Boston-Haifa Connection, a partnership that seeks to build economic and social bridges.

He is also a member of the Advisory Committees for the South Area Solomon Schechter Day School and the American Society for the University of Haifa New England Region.

Madam Speaker, Stuart Rossman has spent a lifetime working for the betterment of his community and of Israel and the relationship between our two countries. It is my pleasure to join with Stuart's family, his wife Shelley and daughters Rina and Jessie, JCRC Executive Director Nancy K. Kaufman and their col-

leagues to recognize his achievements and to congratulate him as he concludes his tenure as President of the Jewish Community Relations Council of Greater Boston.

TRIBUTE TO MRS. DOROTHY ELIZABETH MLADINOV

**HON. JOE BACA**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 9, 2010*

Mr. BACA. Madam Speaker, I stand here today to honor and remember a loving wife, mother, grandmother, sister, friend and respected citizen, Mrs. Dorothy Elizabeth Mladinov.

Dot, as she was affectionately known, passed away peacefully in her home from Acute Myeloid Leukemia on May 14, 2010.

The daughter of Johan and Julia Dobias, she was born in Chicago, Illinois, on December 13, 1939.

Dot was an 11 year survivor of breast cancer. After beating the disease, she became an avid walker in support of the Susan G. Komen for the Cure Foundation.

Dot had recently retired after working 20 years as a surgery technician at the San Antonio Community Hospital of Upland, California.

Upon moving to Upland in 1968 to raise her family, she quickly became involved in local organizations such as youth sports, the PTA, and Girl Scouts.

Dot is mourned by her high school sweetheart turned husband of 49 years, Dr. Joseph Mladinov Jr.; her three children and their spouses, Joseph Mladinov III and Aries, Cyndi Mladinov and Tynan Schmidt, Chris Mladinov and Anne Kim; her 6 grandchildren Jake, Keaton, Vincent, Joseph IV, Jonco and Genevieve; two sisters, Dolores and Judy; and many nieces, nephews and friends.

In lieu of flowers, donations have been requested to be made to the Susan G. Komen for the Cure Foundation, in Dottie's name.

Let us take the time to pay tribute to this wonderful woman. The thoughts and prayers of my wife Barbara, my family, and I, are with her family at this time.

Madam Speaker, let us pay our respects to Dorothy Elizabeth Mladinov. Let us celebrate the life she lived and her positive impact on the lives of everyone she touched.

HONORING WOODBURY ROTARY CLUB VETERANS MONUMENT

**HON. ROBERT E. ANDREWS**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 9, 2010*

Mr. ANDREWS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the Woodbury Rotary Club and

the recent construction of the Woodbury Rotary Club Veterans Monument. The Veterans Monument recognizes veterans from the past, present, and those who will serve in the future.

Construction of the monument would not have been possible without the dedicated efforts of the Club Service Committee Chair, Herb Budd, Jr. Mr. Budd served as a Second Lieutenant in the U.S. Army National Guard. He was elected President of the rotary club in 1971 and 2005 and served as District Governor in 1989.

The Woodbury Rotary Club Veterans Monument has been an ongoing project since 2005. The monument is a ceremonial stone fixture, centrally located on the Rotary Park Memorial Walkway. Veterans of the Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Air Force, Coast Guard, Merchant Marines and Army National Guard are honored for their service during both times of war and peace. The area around the monument will be made up of bricks engraved to reflect military service of individuals in the South Jersey community.

This monument embodies the motto, "Some gave all, all gave some" by honoring those brave individuals who committed selfless acts for their country. The actions of these men and women ensured peace and freedom for American people. The monument pays tribute to those who have lost their lives in combat, those who survived, and those who will serve in the future.

Madam Speaker, the Woodbury Rotary Club should be recognized for their time and effort spent constructing a permanent tribute to our veterans.

ADAM METZGER

**HON. SAM GRAVES**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 9, 2010*

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Adam Metzger. Adam is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 59, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Adam has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Adam has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Becoming an Eagle Scout represents a great deal of dedication and perseverance by Adam and I am sure that he will continue to hold such high standards in the future.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Adam Metzger for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

HONORING THE ACHIEVEMENTS  
AND LEADERSHIP OF P. MI-  
CHAEL SAINT

### HON. BILL DELAHUNT

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 9, 2010*

Mr. DELAHUNT. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize P. Michael Saint of Franklin, Tennessee—the Chairman, and Chief Executive Officer of The Saint Consulting Group.

In 1983, following a long and dedicated career working in government and media, Mr. Saint founded The Saint Consulting Group. It started in a one-bedroom condominium in Hingham, Massachusetts—which is in my district—and has since blossomed into a successful international firm with offices across the United States and Europe. From its humble beginnings, his pioneering company has grown to be a recognized international leader in the field of “land use politics.”

From conferences and speeches at distinguished institutions around the world, Mr. Saint has generously shared his unique perspective and extensive professional experiences with colleagues, peers, and younger generations of philanthropists. He serves on the Board of Directors of the Association of Management Consulting Firms and is a trustee on the board of The Foundation for Excellence in Consulting and Management, and also contributes locally serving on the advisory board of the Civic Bank and Trust in Nashville and the executive board of the Nashville District Council of the Urban Land Institute. He serves on the Board of Directors of the Nashville Opera and on the Board of Trustees of the George Street Playhouse in New Brunswick, New Jersey. His active support for the Vanderbilt Children's Hospital and the Heritage Foundation of Williamson County, Tennessee, as well as innumerable other associations and charitable endeavors, has sparked hope in the hearts of children and families across the country.

In 2009, Mr. Saint added the title of “author” to his impressive resume as he co-authored the groundbreaking book on land use politics, “Nimby Wars—The Politics of Land Use”.

To the people who work for and with Mr. Saint, and to the people who know him best, it is not just his entrepreneurial spirit, or his charitable work that makes him an enduring leader. It is the genuine care and compassion that he exhibits for others that will always be his legacy. Whether it was offering domestic partner benefits long before it was fashionable or a legal requirement, or fully funding family health insurance costs for all his employees, or promoting continuing education for his employees by fully funding Master of Business Arts degrees—Mike Saint has created a dynamic and innovative company, one that puts people first.

It is my honor to recognize P. Michael Saint for his innovation, his philanthropic endeavors and, most importantly, for his exemplary leadership.

LILLIE MAE SEARCY

### HON. GREGG HARPER

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 9, 2010*

Mr. HARPER. Madam Speaker, on June 6, 2010, Lillie Mae Searcy of Natchez, Mississippi passed away at the age of 80. Born to Eliza and Charles Gaylor and married to Argenter Searcy, Searcy leaves behind an inspiring legacy that we honor here today.

A fine and caring woman, Lillie Searcy came to know Christ at a young age. Her character, strength, and her faith in the Lord provided an instrument for her desire to help those in need. Through her church she reached out to people, aiding them both physically and spiritually. Searcy did so by not only cooking for the disadvantaged at both the Stewpot Ministries and with the Southwest Mississippi Planning and Development for Senior Citizens, but also through her life and her testimony. Before cooking for Stewpot and for seniors, Searcy achieved fame as one of the best chefs in the South.

Despite her large family and many careers, she always had time to help those less fortunate than herself. Searcy was a member of the choir at each church she attended, a member of the Mother's Board, and a member of the Board of Directors for WORD. Helping others was her joy, and she was a blessing to everyone around her. Her caring temperament inspired friends and family to become involved in the community.

In addition to serving others, Lillie Searcy was a devoted and loving mother of 11. She cared for her 38 grandchildren, 28 great grandchildren, and four great-great grandchildren. The happiness of her family and of those around her was her top priority.

Lillie Searcy lived by a motto in which we should all take note. “Live your life to the fullest, don't wait for happiness to come to you, follow your passion, and create your own joy.” Searcy brightened the lives of all around her and her selflessness should serve as inspiration to us all. Let us honor Lillie Mae Searcy today.

### IN RECOGNITION OF WORLD TRADE CENTER RESPONDER DAY

### HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 9, 2010*

Mrs. MALONEY. Madam Speaker, along with my colleague and good friend Congressman NADLER, I rise to recognize World Trade Center Responder Day, which will be held in lower Manhattan on the afternoon of Saturday, June 5th. World Trade Center (WTC) Responder Day is organized by the Mount Sinai World Trade Center Medical Monitoring and Treatment Program Clinical Center, the New York State AFL-CIO, and the New York City Central Labor Council to honor the men and women who rushed to lower Manhattan to rescue and recover others following the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001.

The collapse of the World Trade Center towers took thousands of lives in a matter of seconds and released a massive cloud of as-

bestos, pulverized concrete, and other poisons that sickened thousands more in the days and months after the attacks. The first responders who participated in search, rescue, and recovery operations at Ground Zero toiled in this toxic environment, often for weeks at a time. As a result of their service, many of these heroes and heroines now suffer from a host of illnesses, including severe respiratory and gastrointestinal diseases and Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder—as do many survivors of the attacks.

For many, 9/11 has receded into memory, but the nightmare of that day continues for Americans sickened as a direct result of these attacks on our country, and are not getting the help they need and deserve from the federal government. In addition to honoring their service, WTC Responder Day also serves as a reminder that we must do more to provide proper health care and compensation to first responders and survivors of the attacks who are suffering.

The federal government has a moral obligation to care for those who respond to an attack on our country, just as we did more than 65 years ago in the aftermath of the Pearl Harbor attacks. At that time, American civilians helped recover the dead and salvage what remained of our Pacific fleet. Many of these civilians also were killed, injured or made sick as a consequence of their heroic service to our nation. In passing the War Hazards Compensation Act of 1942, Congress wisely and compassionately extended health care and financial relief to civilian responders in need. It is time that this Congress did the same for those who lost their health as a result of 9/11. More than 100 colleagues serving in this House, from all across the nation, have joined with Congressman NADLER and me in a bipartisan coalition to co-sponsor the James Zadroga 9/11 Health and Compensation Act. It will provide medical monitoring for everyone who was exposed to World Trade Center toxins, treatment for anyone who is sick as a result, and compensation for economic losses by reopening the 9/11 Victim Compensation Fund.

Though WTC Responder Day is held in Manhattan, caring for the heroes of Ground Zero Americans is an issue that extends far beyond the borders of the Empire State. According to the federally-funded World Trade Center Health Registry, citizens from all 50 states and nearly every Congressional district in the country ventured to lower Manhattan to volunteer their services on or after 9/11, and now harbor serious concerns about their health. In all, more than 10,000 people enrolled in the Registry live outside the greater New York tri-state metropolitan area that also encompasses northern New Jersey and southwestern Connecticut.

New York City Mayor Michael Bloomberg has proclaimed June 5th to be World Trade Center Responders Day in the Big Apple. The organizers of Responder Day plan to make this a recurring, nationally-recognized event, one that will continue to inspire other communities around the country to host their own Responder Day gatherings in the years to come.

Madam Speaker, Congressman NADLER and I ask that our colleagues join us in applauding the Mount Sinai World Trade Center Medical Monitoring and Treatment Program Clinical Center, the New York State AFL-CIO, and the New York City Central Labor Council for organizing World Trade Center Responder Day.

We commend these fine organizations for their patriotism and dedication to caring for the heroes of 9/11.

# TAX EXTENDERS ACT OF 2009

SPEECH OF

**HON. IKE SKELTON**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, May 28, 2010*

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Speaker, when I am home in Missouri, the folks I talk to frequently express their concerns about the economy and jobs. According to the most recent data, 27,630 people in the Fourth District are without work. Families whose breadwinners have lost work and others who fear unemployment must continue to be a priority of this Congress.

Jobs allow for American families to feel secure in their homes. Jobs stimulate economic activity in our home towns and throughout our country. Jobs generate tax revenue for city, state, and federal governments, which help policy makers pay the bills and reduce the deficit. Jobs are essential to breaking out of the Great Recession.

This year, Congress has been working on several jobs bills. One bill known as the HIRE Act, which is now the law of the land, provides tax relief to small businesses and expands important highway projects. Other legislation on which Congress has been working include bills to provide additional small business tax relief, to expand lending opportunities for small businesses, and to stimulate small business growth and expansion.

Today, the House of Representatives is considering H.R. 4213, a bill that would create additional jobs in our country by cutting taxes for American families and businesses and by spurring new infrastructure improvements. It would also take care of American veterans by eliminating the so-called disabled veterans tax for two years, would provide American farmers with tax relief and emergency disaster assistance, and would extend emergency assistance to American families.

H.R. 4213 is supported by Farm Bureau, by veterans, by small businesses, and by AARP.

For Missouri farmers, H.R. 4213 would extend the five-year depreciation for farming machinery and equipment, would extend the charitable tax deduction for donated food, and would extend the tax deduction for donating conservation easements. H.R. 4213 would also extend critical tax incentives for biodiesel and renewable diesel fuel. The biodiesel tax credit is very important to the development and sustainability of America's renewable fuel industry. H.R. 4213 would also provide emergency financial assistance to farmers for qualifying 2009 agricultural losses. For these reasons, today's legislation has been endorsed by the Farm Bureau and the National Biodiesel Board.

For America's veterans, H.R. 4213 would allow many military retirees who are also disabled veterans to receive both Department of Defense military retirement pay and VA military disability pay for the next two years. Often referred to as the disabled veterans tax, finding a legislative solution to the concurrent receipt issue has been a top priority of our nation's veterans and of Congress. I have

worked on the House Armed Services Committee to end the disabled veterans tax and am pleased that H.R. 4213 will provide full retirement and disability benefits to 77,000 of these disabled service members for two years. Its passage is a critical first step toward extending concurrent receipt to all 136,000 medically retired veterans over four years. Because of the bill's positive impact on veterans, it has been endorsed by the Military Officers Association of America, MOAA.

For Missouri businesses, H.R. 4213 would allow credit to flow more easily to small businesses through popular and effective SBA lending programs, would extend the research and development, R&D, tax credit that encourages financial investment and job creation in America's high tech sector, would allow corporations to receive a refund of a portion of their alternative minimum tax credits if they invest during 2010 in capital equipment for use in the United States, would extend the 15-year cost recovery for qualified improvements to restaurants and retail space, and would extend benefits for investments in economically distressed areas of our country. Because the business provisions included in H.R. 4213 are so very important, the bill is supported by the National Restaurant Association, the Independent Community Bankers Association, and the National Retail Federation.

For Missouri families, H.R. 4213 would provide important tax relief. The bill would extend for one year tax deductions for qualified college education expenses. It would extend a special deduction for teachers and other school professionals who use personal funds to buy school supplies for their classrooms. And, the legislation would ensure activated military reservists do not suffer a pay reduction by providing a tax credit for small businesses that continue to pay National Guard and Reserve employees when they are called to active duty.

For Missouri's senior citizens, military personnel, military retirees, and people with disabilities, H.R. 4213 would ensure they are able to continue seeing the doctor of their choice by preventing a 21 percent reduction in Medicare and TRICARE physician fees. Without making these changes, doctors in Missouri and elsewhere would likely not continue to see Medicare and TRICARE patients. That is why H.R. 4213 is supported by AARP and MOAA.

H.R. 4213 would extend other valuable provisions of the U.S. tax code, including deductions for charitable contributions by individuals and businesses, would provide for important pension relief sought after by the Missouri Rural Electric Cooperatives, would provide emergency assistance for American families who are impacted by unemployment, would create summer jobs for American youth, and would allow for state and local governments to finance the reconstruction of schools, sewer systems, and hospitals through Build America Bonds and Recovery Zone Bonds—work that would create thousands of jobs across our country. Because infrastructure improvements are so vital to jobs, H.R. 4213 has been endorsed by our nation's mayors and county governments.

The non-emergency spending associated with H.R. 4213 is compliant with the PAYGO law enacted earlier this year. I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 4213 so that we can provide tax relief to American families, farmers, and businesses, can take care of Amer-

ica's veterans and senior citizens, and can create small business jobs.

# RECOGNIZING TRAILBLAZER AND EDUCATIONAL PIONEER MRS. EMMA BRANDON

**HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON**

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 9, 2010*

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Madam Speaker, it gives me immense pleasure to rise today in honor of trailblazer, educator and pioneer, Mrs. Emma Brandon.

Mrs. Brandon began teaching right out of high school in 1946 for a wage of \$36/month. She walked three miles one way to school and seven miles if weather made the road conditions too difficult to travel.

As a woman, of much wisdom and vision, Mrs. Brandon realized that education required a deep devotion and a substantial amount of hard work from both student and teacher.

Mrs. Brandon began her career at a two-room school on a dirt road next door to Beechland Church where she taught first through fourth grades. Three years later, she became principal and sole teacher at Egypt School in Russum, which was later consolidated into another school.

Mrs. Brandon understood that the task of educating is an enduring and tedious process; one that empowers and benefits individuals, communities and countries, alike.

After years of serving students in Claiborne County, as both an educator and an administrator, Mrs. Brandon earned her bachelor's degree from Alcorn State University. After completing her education at Alcorn, Mrs. Brandon returned to complete her educational career in Claiborne County, MS.

For the last 42 years, Mrs. Brandon has been educating generations of families at A.W. Watson Elementary in Port Gibson, MS where her enthusiasm for learning is abundant. She implemented programs that have strengthened the learning capabilities of her students and challenged them to think critically.

Mrs. Brandon has yielded the guiding principles of education and knowledge to all of whom she has encountered. She believes that each child can enjoy today's promises of a rewarding life if they possess a strong foundation in education.

Madam Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I ask my colleagues to rise and join me in expressing my gratitude and appreciation to Mrs. Emma Brandon of Port Gibson, Mississippi, for her many contributions to education and her dedication to its principles.

# MILITARY SPOUSE APPRECIATION DAY

**HON. SUE WILKINS MYRICK**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 9, 2010*

Mrs. MYRICK. Madam Speaker, on May 7, 2010, we recognized Military Spouse Appreciation Day. On this day, I received a letter from Mrs. Anthony Massey, the wife of a diver in the United States Navy. Her letter is attached, and it very eloquently talks about the

sacrifice, support and dedication provided by military spouses to our men and women in uniform.

#### HAVE YOU THANKED A MILITARY SPOUSE TODAY?

In 1984, President Ronald Reagan designated the Friday before Mother's Day as Military Spouse Appreciation Day, a day set aside to recognize the many contributions and sacrifices military spouses make in support of military members and our country.

Yesterday, President Obama made this declaration:

When Americans answer the call to serve in our Armed Forces, a sacred trust is forged. Our men and women in uniform take on the duty of protecting us all, and their spouses and families also help shoulder this important responsibility . . . At the heart of our Armed Forces, servicemembers' spouses keep our military families on track. They balance family life, military life, and their careers all while supporting other military families and giving back to their communities . . . Today, let us honor the spouses and families who support our servicemembers and, in doing so, help defend our Nation and preserve our liberty.

For many military spouses, we have essentially no idea what it means to be a "military spouse" when we say, "I do". We, like many, simply make a pledge that day to support our loved one through good times and bad. However, it quickly becomes apparent that military life is unlike anything we have experienced. When standing at the altar, whether we know it or not, we are making a commitment to serve our country, many times forsaking our desires for a greater cause.

Rarely, will you ever see a military spouse seeking the approval of others for the hat he or she wears. Rarely, will you ever hear a military spouse ask for "Thank Yous" after he or she has kissed their loved one for the last time for 7 months (or longer). Rarely, will you ever witness a military spouse demand compensation for raising their children as a single parent while their loved one deploys for the fourth time in five years.

In just really is not our style.

When you say, "I do" to a Sailor, Marine, Soldier, Airman, or Coast Guardsman, you are immediately inducted into a special society of spouses . . . one that is built on a legacy of those who have sacrificially dedicated their life to the service of their country. A legacy that only understood by those who have walked the walk and talked the talk. From this legacy, we are inspired, encouraged, and supported. We know many before us and along side of us have gotten through it, have overcome the challenges, and persevered when the going gets tough.

We know that there is at least one spouse who has celebrated an anniversary alone and one spouse who watched their child graduate from preschool/high school/college alone. We know there is at least one spouse who moved from one state to another alone. We know there is at least one spouse who has given birth to their first, third, or sixth child alone.

Nevertheless, we are quick to remember that we are never alone. For me personally, Jesus is always by my side. However, for all of us, every military spouse, past or present, is standing side-by-side with us as we continue to overcome the challenges of daily life.

There is a joy like no other when your Sailor, Marine, Soldier, Airman, or Coast Guardsman comes home from deployment or training. There is an excitement that wakes you up at all hours of the night and keeps you from falling back asleep in the days leading up to their return home. There is a

sense of relief as soon as they are in your arms that you have defeated the odds.

These moments make it worthwhile. That first eye-to-eye contact . . . that first embrace . . . that first kiss all remind you why you fell in love with them the first time. It is the overwhelming sense of pride you feel when you see them in uniform as they step off the plane or ship that reminds you that the hat you wear is worth it. It is that first morning that you wake up in their arms that gives you the strength to begin preparing for the next separation.

Military spouses are a breed like no other. While the United States Military has no official authority over us, they really do because they tell us when our loved one will work, when they will stand watch, when they will deploy, and to where we will move next. Their system can be archaic and rigid at times . . . but without it, our loved one's life is at risk. We grow to appreciate this rigidity. We learn to communicate in a language based on acronyms. Moreover, we learn to roll with the punches.

Before we got married, Andy told me that military life is like the tide, frequently changing on a daily basis. There are no certainties to military life other than constant change. Frequently, deployment dates move up and return dates are pushed back. Departure times become earlier and arrival times get later. To be a successful military spouse, you must be resilient because without resiliency, you crack. We are stretched to our limits and then some, with little power to change the situation.

Military spouses are woven together with the same strand of thread when we accept this responsibility with a gracious heart and sacrificial love for our Sailor, Marine, Airman, or Coast Guardsman. And for the military spouses whose loved one has paid the ultimate price in service to our country, we, as a nation, are forever indebted to them for the price they paid as a military spouse.

I write this out of the pride I have to be ND1 Massey's wife. Pride in him as a Mighty Man who serves an Awesome God first and our country second. Pride that reduces me to tears whenever I think of him.

So if you know one, thank one. While they may react humbly, chances are it will mean a great deal to them. Our Sailors, Marines, Soldiers, Airmen, and Coast Guardsmen are so frequently the ones who are thanked . . . and they should be. They are the ones that leave their families at home to fight for a cause they may not always support. However, every once in a while, when we are thanked for wearing this hat, it reassures us that we are remembered and appreciated and it encourages us to face the next challenge head on.

#### TAX EXTENDERS ACT OF 2009

SPEECH OF

**HON. SANDER M. LEVIN**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, May 28, 2010*

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. Speaker, in conjunction with the May 28, 2010, consideration in the U.S. House of Representatives of House amendments to the Senate amendment to H.R. 4213, "The American Jobs and Closing Tax Loopholes Act of 2010," I have asked the non-partisan Joint Committee on Taxation to make available to the public a technical explanation of the provisions included in the House amendment to the Senate amendment to H.R. 4213. This technical explanation reflects the

Ways and Means Committee's understanding and legislative intent behind those provisions. It is available on the Joint Committee on Taxation website at [www.jct.gov](http://www.jct.gov) and is listed under document number JCX-29-10.

#### RECOGNIZING THE ROLE AND CONTRIBUTIONS OF THE ABILITYONE PROGRAM

**HON. SAM GRAVES**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 9, 2010*

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the participating businesses in the AbilityOne program and for the work they do providing meaningful employment to the disabled of our communities.

AbilityOne provides those who are blind or have other significant disabilities the ability and self-confidence that can come from meaningful employment. AbilityOne jobs sites provide important training to individuals with disabilities that help further integrate them into the broader community where they can earn a living alongside their non-disabled peers.

In my own district, a number of AbilityOne businesses have used the resources this program authorizes to provide employment opportunities to the blind and disabled. Each year, I have the opportunity to meet with the business owners and their workers to hear first hand how participation in this program has enriched their lives and the economic vitality of the local communities in which they are located.

In closing, I encourage all my colleagues to recognize and work with the AbilityOne program sponsors in their own districts and hope that Congress will continue to support and encourage this important employment program for the disabled.

#### FEDERAL REPORTING.GOV, THE FIRST CENTRALIZED REPORTING STRATEGY

**HON. JAMES P. MORAN**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 9, 2010*

Mr. MORAN of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I rise to draw the attention of my colleagues to a successful example of public-private collaboration that marks a new era of government transparency and accountability. It could not have happened without the cooperation of the private sector.

Following President Obama's commitment to let the public track every dollar spent under the economic stimulus package, administration was hard pressed to find a timely and effective way to meet the objective. Many were skeptical, and thought it would take months if not years to develop a website, standardize the information, create a website and keep the information current.

Rather than start from scratch and begin a new procurement process, the Office of Management and Budget opted to leverage an existing program and technology. This wise decision lowered the cost and enabled it to be implemented under an extremely tight timeline.

In June 2009, OMB and the Recovery and Accountability and Transparency Board (RATB) selected an existing data management system used by the Environmental Protection Agency called the Central Data Exchange or CDX for short. The great efficiency of the interagency work allowed the website, Recovery.gov, to open several weeks later in August for both the government and the public to access. The system is also flexible enough that OMB and RATB continue to guide and improve reporting requirements through a separate data collection site, FederalReporting.gov on a daily basis.

The Recovery Board and the EPA partnered with CGI Federal to develop and implement the site. CGI Federal built the site and added enhancements and still continues to validate the site's information. The tireless work and outstanding effort of this partnership led to the successful implementation of this system.

FederalReporting.gov is the first centralized reporting strategy that spans all participating federal agencies. As a result, agencies do not have to spend funds to implement independent solutions for data collection. Also, FederalReporting.gov is one of the first federal reporting systems to be entirely paperless. The success of the site proves that a paperless system does not result in a large number of non-compliant recipients but opens the door for future green government efforts.

FederalReporting.gov shows us that there are examples of successful collaboration and partnership between government agencies and the private sector that help move our country forward.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. NITA M. LOWEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 9, 2010*

Mrs. LOWEY. Madam Speaker, I regrettably missed a rollcall vote on June 8, 2010. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall No. 337.

### HOH INDIAN TRIBE SAFE HOMELANDS ACT

SPEECH OF

### HON. LAURA RICHARDSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 8, 2010*

Ms. RICHARDSON. Madam Speaker, as a member of the Native American Caucus, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 1061, the Hoh Indian Tribe Safe Homelands Act, which declares that certain federal land in the state of Washington is held in trust by the United States for the benefit of the Hoh Indian Tribe.

I would like to thank Speaker PELOSI for her leadership in bringing this important bill to the floor. I would also like to thank my colleague Congressman NORM DICKS, the author of this legislation, who worked so hard to help this tribe solve the serious land and water problems they face.

Madam Speaker, the Hoh Indian Tribe Safe Homelands Act directs the Secretary of the Interior, on conveyance of certain nonfederal

land owned by the Tribe to the Secretary, to take such land into trust for the Tribe. This bill prohibits the placement of commercial, residential, or industrial buildings or other structures, any actions that would adversely affect the natural environment, or logging and hunting activities. H.R. 1061 also directs the Secretary and the Tribe to make cooperative agreements for mutual emergency fire aid and to provide opportunities for the public to learn more about the Tribe's culture and traditions.

As a long time friend and supporter of the Native American community, I am so pleased to champion a bill such as H.R. 1061, which will help the Hoh tribe grow and prosper on lands that are safe for their children and elders.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting H.R. 1061.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. GABRIELLE GIFFORDS

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 9, 2010*

Ms. GIFFORDS. Madam Speaker, yesterday I was absent and missed rollcall votes 337 and 338.

Had I been present, I would have voted "aye" on rollcall 337 and "aye" on rollcall 338.

#### TRIBUTE TO NELDA BARTON-COLLINGS

### HON. HAROLD ROGERS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 9, 2010*

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Nelda Barton-Collings, a business savvy Kentuckian who adopted a passion for public service through her family legacy and through her own determination, improved our region.

Nelda Barton-Collings is a pioneer for women in business and entrepreneurship in Kentucky. Nelda's career was shaped by her hard-working family. Her father spent 20 years as a county commissioner while also running the family grocery store with her mother. Her parents laid a firm foundation of strong work ethic and civic responsibility. Nelda dedicated her life to those values and became the first woman to chair the Kentucky Chamber of Commerce.

Nelda faced several challenges along her journey to success. At the age of 48, she suffered through the death of her husband and became a widow with five children. Determined to support her family, Nelda went back to college to learn more about business, entrepreneurship and healthcare. She soon joined her late husband's business partner to bring his original business dreams to life. Today, they own nursing homes, newspapers, banks and a pharmacy. Nelda's tenacity and spirit carried her through many challenging times to now see the fruits of her hard labor shared among families across the state.

For 28 years, Nelda was the Republican National Committee-Woman from Kentucky. She was the first woman from Kentucky to address the RNC and call the meeting to order.

As an ambassador for our fine Commonwealth, Mrs. Barton-Collings greeted every U.S. President with her sweet southern hospitality and gave them a priceless bluegrass welcome. She made such a lasting impression, that President Ronald Reagan appointed her to the Federal Council on Aging and President George H.W. Bush appointed her to the President's Council on Rural America.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Nelda Barton-Collings, a true friend to Kentucky, our great nation and a mentor to women in business and entrepreneurship.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 9, 2010*

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Madam Speaker, on June 8, 2010, I was unavoidably unable to cast my votes for rollcall 337 and rollcall 338 due to a delayed flight. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye."

#### DEDICATION OF STATUE AT MICK- EY MANTLE FIELD IN COMMERCE, OKLAHOMA

### HON. DAN BOREN

OF OKLAHOMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 9, 2010*

Mr. BOREN. Madam Speaker, my congressional district in eastern Oklahoma is home to some great American heroes. Names like Woody Guthrie, T. Boone Pickens, Will Rogers and even the late great Speaker of the House Carl Albert. But no eastern Oklahoman has a bigger claim to fame than Hall of Fame baseball player Mickey Mantle.

Madam Speaker, Mickey Mantle was born in Spavinaw, Oklahoma, the son of Elvin and Lovell Mantle—"The Mick" was named in honor of Mickey Cochrane, the Hall of Fame catcher from the Philadelphia Athletics. Later in life the Mantle family would move to the nearby town of Commerce, Oklahoma where Mickey would attend Commerce High School and go on to become an all-state athlete in basketball, football and of course baseball.

Promptly after his high school graduation, Mickey Mantle would sign a contract to play professional baseball in the New York Yankees organization. Mantle rose through the minors quickly and made his major league debut on Yankees' field in the spring of 1951. Five years later, in 1956, Mickey Mantle would win the Triple Crown, leading the majors in home runs, RBIs and batting average. In the spring of 1957, he was considered by many to be the greatest baseball player on the planet.

Mantle went on to become one of the most recognizable names in baseball history and in 1961 was the highest paid active player in the Major Leagues. He was inducted into the National Baseball Hall of Fame in 1974, and forty-one years ago this month (June) had his number "7" forever retired in Yankee lore.

In honor of their hometown hero, on the 12th of June, 2010, the citizens of eastern Oklahoma are set to commemorate one of

their own, Mickey Mantle, with the dedication of a statue of the legendary player at Mickey Mantle field at Commerce High School in Commerce, Oklahoma.

Madam Speaker, Mickey Mantle's hopes, dreams, and accomplishments remind each and every one of my constituents why it's great to be an "Okie."

#### CONGRATULATING ISRAEL ON OECD MEMBERSHIP

SPEECH OF

**HON. DEBBIE WASSERMAN SCHULTZ**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 26, 2010*

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to offer my congratulations to the state of Israel on its acceptance into the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development. This shows a great triumph for the country of Israel, and I congratulate them on their prestigious achievement.

On May 10, the 31 states in the OECD unanimously agreed to invite Israel to become a member, noting the country's "scientific and technological policies have produced outstanding outcomes on a world scale." On May 27, Israel officially joined.

The fact that Israel is now a member of the OECD is proof that, despite hardships and struggle, Israel has become a thriving and prosperous democracy. It has made important contributions in technology, medicine, agriculture and environmental innovation, worldwide. I am proud to see that these contributions are being acknowledged.

I also want to recognize President Obama and Secretary Clinton for their strong efforts ensure this happened. This victory for Israel is equally a victory for our country.

Congratulations, too, to the participating countries in the OECD for their ability to see past the possible politicization of this offer. The OECD was responsible and fair in its assessment of Israel's qualifications, focusing on what matters: economic and democratic standards.

But even as we stand here to recognize the Jewish State's achievement, we must remember that Israel, one of our strongest and most consistent allies, still continues to face attacks from hostile neighbors and challenges in its dealings with the rest of the world.

We must continue to be supportive allies to the Jewish State. Though Israel has made this significant advancement, threats still exist, and we must ensure that anti-Israel and anti-Semitic sentiments do not dictate Israel's viability as a strong, democratic nation.

#### RECOGNIZING THE 30TH ANNIVERSARY OF SIERRA NEVADA BREWERY AND THE INSPIRATIONAL CAREER OF ITS FOUNDER KEN GROSSMAN

**HON. WALLY HERGER**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 9, 2010*

Mr. HERGER. Madam Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise to commend both Si-

erra Nevada Brewery and the inspirational career of its founder, Ken Grossman on its 30th Anniversary. Ken is an outstanding model of the modern American entrepreneurial spirit.

Thirty years ago, Ken began a modest brewing company in the town of Chico, California. Named after the beloved California Mountains, the Sierra Nevada Brewery has since matured into the tenth largest brewery in the United States.

Ken's specialty beers receive constant praise for their exceptional quality. Through the years his brews have collected an impressive array of national and international awards. His award portfolio includes gold medal recognition from competitions in Munich as well as the Great American Beer Festival in Colorado.

The Sierra Nevada Brewery, by incorporating smart and sustainable manufacturing practices, provides an excellent working example of the ideal that economic success and environmental protection go hand in hand. Recently, the brewery expanded its solar panel facility, making it one of the largest private solar facilities in the nation. This expansion allows the brewery to produce the majority of its own energy needs. The brewery also engages in resource conservation and waste diversion through the installation of instruments that reuse the brewery's wastewater and methane gas. Additionally, his brewery has a near perfect recycling record, diverting more than 98 percent of its annual waste away from over-used landfills.

Sierra Nevada Brewery has had a tremendous impact on the local economy. With approximately \$100 million in annual sales, Sierra Nevada Brewery has been able to create over three hundred and fifty jobs. Sierra Nevada Brewery has also been generous in giving back to the community. Indeed, its donation of \$88,000 to the California State University, Chico's Paul L. Byrne Agricultural Teaching and Research Center illustrates its desire to give back to the community that has aided in its success. There is no doubt that the Second Congressional District of California is a better place because of the economic activity and good works that Sierra Nevada Brewery selflessly provides.

#### RECOGNIZING MARTIN LEONARD SKUTNIK

**HON. JOHN M. SPRATT, JR.**

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 9, 2010*

Mr. SPRATT. Madam Speaker, I rise to commemorate the retirement from government service of a true hero, Martin Leonard Skutnik. On June 4, 2010, Lenny retired after 30 years supporting logistics at the Congressional Budget Office, CBO. His work there—printing and distribution of literally hundreds of CBO reports, providing IT support, and handling mail and supplies—may not have been heroic in the standard sense, and Lenny Skutnik may still insist he didn't do anything special, but those who remember the Air Florida crash in Washington, DC, in 1982 know differently. On that January day when a plane crashed into the freezing Potomac River seconds after takeoff, Lenny dived from shore to save a woman who was too weakened to hold on to

a helicopter's rescue line. His selfless and risky act saved Priscilla Tirado, and two weeks later President Reagan made Lenny a household name by citing his heroism during the State of the Union address.

Lenny never sought recognition of his heroism, but he received it in spades, including being awarded both the United States Coast Guard's Gold Lifesaving Medal and the Carnegie Hero's Fund Medal. The public accolades included "Lenny Skutnik Days" in Mississippi in 1982, and a unanimously passed resolution by the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Virginia honoring his "unselfish act of bravery."

But day in and day out, Lenny downplayed his heroism in an unassuming way, continuing to provide logistics for CBO. Doug Elmendorf, CBO's Director, publicly cited Lenny's contributions on Friday, noting that Lenny says he was proud to have been part of CBO, and that he learned a lot working there.

Lenny Skutnik exemplifies the spirit of public service, both on that fateful winter day in 1982 and every day since then through his work with others at CBO to provide budget-related materials that inform Congress and the public on key decisions. On behalf of the many people who rely on CBO's products, and as a grateful American, I would like to thank Lenny Skutnik not just for his heroism in 1982 but also for his many years of public service.

#### HONORING MARTIN LEONARD SKUTNIK

**HON. PAUL RYAN**

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 9, 2010*

Mr. RYAN of Wisconsin. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute and to say thank you to Martin Leonard Skutnik. Lenny is retiring after 30 years of service to the Congressional Budget Office. As you know, Madam Speaker, the Budget Committee relies heavily on CBO and on the professionalism, dedication, and competence of its staff—and those are the very traits I think of when I think of Lenny Skutnik: professional, dedicated, and competent. Lenny paid perhaps one of the highest compliments an employee can pay to his employer when he said recently that he was "proud to have been a part of it [CBO]." That pride was evident in his work and the support he provided CBO in ensuring its products were printed and disseminated in a timely manner.

Lenny had a career at CBO of which he can be proud and Lenny—through his unforgettable actions on a cold day in January nearly 30 years ago—filled this nation with pride even as we watched the fate of Air Florida Flight 90 in horror. On that January 13th, which will forever be remembered by those who then lived and worked in and around Washington, DC, Lenny provided a very real face to heroism. Lenny pushed his own safety to the back of his mind, defied logic, and willingly jumped into the icy waters of the Potomac to help those in need. Lenny's humility and grace keep him from acknowledging he did anything extraordinary, yet we know differently. Lenny's actions provide inspiration to us all and provide a vivid example for us to use when describing the concept of heroism to our children.

Madam Speaker, the Congress was fortunate to have Lenny Skutnik as an employee for the last 30 years and this nation is proud to call Lenny one of its own. I wish him a long, healthy, and happy retirement. He has earned it.

HONORING LIEUTENANT COLONEL  
TED EPPLER

**HON. JIM JORDAN**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 9, 2010*

Mr. JORDAN of Ohio. Madam Speaker, I am honored to commend to the House the outstanding contributions of Lieutenant Colonel Theodore M. "Ted" Eppler to the Army and to our nation.

Since August of 2007, Colonel Eppler has served as commander of the Joint Systems Manufacturing Center in Lima, Ohio, where so many have worked since World War II to provide cutting-edge military equipment to our armed forces. During his service in Lima, he deployed to Iraq for a year in support of the Defense Contract Management Agency's efforts there.

Throughout his military career, Colonel Eppler's dedication and valor have been recognized by his peers and superiors. Among numerous other awards and commendations, he has earned a Bronze Star, the Meritorious Service Medal, and the Joint Service Commendation Medal.

A 1988 graduate of the United States Military Academy at West Point, where he earned a Bachelor of Science degree in leadership studies, Colonel Eppler also earned a Master of Science degree from the Florida Institute of Technology. He and his wife, Barbara, are the proud parents of Ben, Matthew, and Bentley.

Madam Speaker, Colonel Eppler will relinquish command of JSMC to Lieutenant Colonel Yee Hang at a June 15 ceremony at the facility. On behalf of the people of Ohio's Fourth Congressional District, I thank him for his distinguished service in Lima these past three years. I am proud to join everyone at JSMC in wishing him and his family every success as they move to a new chapter in their lives.

COMMENDING DR. NATHAN FORD  
AS RECIPIENT OF "CELEBRATE  
OUR SUCCESSES" AWARD

**HON. DAVID P. ROE**

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 9, 2010*

Mr. ROE of Tennessee. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend Dr. Nathan Ford, the 2010 recipient of the prestigious "Celebrate our Successes" award for his life achievements as Alumnae of the Cocke County School System.

As a member of the Education and Labor Committee, as well as a former Mayor, I welcome the opportunity to applaud those who have gone above the call to serve their community. Dr. Ford has selflessly devoted his life providing health care through his practice of Optometry, education for all ages, and his Public Service across the State of Tennessee.

Dr. Ford began his public service at age 27 being elected to Cocke County Board of Education, and has since served as Cocke County Economic Development Commission Chairman, Newport/Cocke County Chamber of Commerce Director, Chairman of the Cocke County Baptist Hospital Board; not to mention the four terms he spent serving as a Tennessee State Representative.

As a public figure myself, I understand the responsibilities and challenges that are presented when serving in such a position; I commend him for meeting them all with dignity and wisdom.

Dr. Ford's love of serving others, medicine and community involvement continues to this day; it is a great example to those not only in East Tennessee, but to our Country. I encourage my colleagues to join me in commending Dr. Nathan Ford for his outstanding life contributions, and his earning this honorable award.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. JOE WILSON**

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 9, 2010*

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, listed below is how I would have voted if I had been present on June 8, 2010.

Roll Number 337—H.R. 1061—to transfer certain land to the United States to be held in trust for the Hoh Indian Tribe, to place land into trust for the Hoh Indian Tribe, and for other purposes—"aye."

Roll Number 338—H. Res. 518—honoring the life of Jacques-Yves Cousteau, explorer, researcher, and pioneer in the field of marine conservation—"aye."

RECOGNIZING VALASSIS  
COMMUNICATIONS, INC.

**HON. THADDEUS G. McCOTTER**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 9, 2010*

Mr. McCOTTER. Madam Speaker, today I rise to recognize Valassis Communications Inc., located in my hometown of Livonia, Michigan, upon the 25th anniversary of their Have You Seen Me? Program founded by Vince Guliano with the support of CEO Al Schultz.

For a quarter of a century, Valassis has demonstrated unwavering support and commitment to the recovery of missing children. Steadfastly dedicated to the core principles of finding missing children, raising public awareness in regard to missing children, deterring potential child abductors and insuring that no missing child is forgotten, Valassis reaches in excess of 100 million people each week. Their partnership with the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children, NCMEC, and the United States Postal Service has featured more than 2,000 missing children and has led to the recovery of over 1,200 of our most vulnerable.

On May 24, 1985, inspired by the heart-breaking story of the abduction and murder of Adam Walsh, Valassis saw a social need and

became a good corporate citizen. Their Herculean effort generates 87 percent of all photographic leads given to law enforcement in missing child cases.

Madam Speaker, Valassis Communications Inc. deserves not only recognition but heartfelt gratitude for having profoundly changed the way America searches for missing and exploited children. I ask my colleagues to join me in commending Valassis for its devotion to the children and families of our community and our country.

NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION  
ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2011

SPEECH OF

**HON. BOBBY L. RUSH**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 27, 2010*

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 5136) to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2011 for military activities of the Department of Defense, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes:

Mr. RUSH. Madam Chair, I rise today in support of the Murphy amendment. By adopting this amendment the House, today, takes an important step in eliminating discrimination in our nation's armed forces.

Madam Chair, critics of this amendment, and the repeal effort, have often stated that allowing open service will "disrupt unit cohesion" and lead to a breakdown in "good order and discipline." These are the same arguments that were used in the 1940s to object to the integration of America's armed forces. Since that time, tens of thousands of African-Americans, myself included, have proudly served this nation that they love. Some have even risen to positions of distinction such as Colin Powell, who served as Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

Much in that same honorable tradition, Madam Chair, gay and lesbian service members have also served our country with distinction. Whether on land, sea, or in the air gay and lesbian Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen, Marines and Coast Guardsmen have served, and continue to serve, professionally and admirably.

Madam Chair, open service is a policy that is embraced by many of our key allies. In fact, in our current conflicts, American forces have served side by side with British, Canadian and Australian forces. These nations all permit open service and have demonstrated—through their soldiers' blood, sweat and tears—that they, too, are an effective fighting force.

In fact, Madam Chair, 35 countries, thirty-five, allow for open service. That's 35 countries, on all six inhabited continents, that have moved past prejudice and bigotry. Now is the time for the United States to be the 36th country to join them.

Of our NATO allies, Turkey and the United States are the only countries that have not yet allowed for open service. By passing this amendment, Madam Chair, the United States takes the first step in rectifying that situation.

Madam Chair, I will close with a quote from one of our former colleagues that I seldom, if ever, agreed with: Republican Senator Barry Goldwater.



In 1993, Senator Goldwater penned an op-ed for the Washington Post and the Los Angeles Times where he stated, "It's no great secret that military studies have proved again and again that there's no valid reason for keeping the ban on gays." I ask my colleagues to remember Senator Goldwater's words and to vote "yes" on this amendment.

#### HONORING SOMERVILLE FIRE DEPARTMENT

#### HON. RODNEY P. FRELINGHUYSEN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 9, 2010*

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the Somerville Fire Department, located in Somerset County, New Jersey, which is celebrating its 175th Anniversary.

In 1835, the Somerville Fire Department originated with the creation of the Washington Fire Company on the present day site of the Somerset County Courthouse yard. The original companies included: Union Fire Company No. 1, Jersey Blue Fire Company No. 2, Somerville Steam Fire Engine Company No. 1 and Steamer Hose Company No. 1. Today, the oldest surviving Engine Company is Engine Company No. 1 which was formed in 1878.

In 1880, several members of the Engine Company No. 1 realized that a hook and ladder truck was necessary to continue serving the community. These men resigned to form the Central Hook and Ladder Company. Eight years later, in 1888, the West End Hose Company No. 3 was organized in response to a citizen's petition for better fire protection on the west end of town. This company was formed with past members of the original Union Engine Company No. 1 and acquired their apparatus, building and grounds.

Another component of Engine Company No. 1 was a group of young firemen, known at the time as the Engine Company Cadets. After a series of differences with the older men of the company, the Cadets broke away from the paternal organization to form the Lincoln Hose Company in 1891.

By 1893, the Somerville Fire Department had placed fire boxes in eight locations around the town to better serve Somerville residents.

In 1916, the West End Hose Company received the first motor apparatus of the Somerville Fire Department. Eight years later, the Borough provided the Central Hook and Ladder Company with a motorized Seagrave truck with a booster tank and a complete set of wooden ladders. Every 20 years thereafter, the borough provided the company with new apparatus.

Then, in 1969, the West End Hose Company moved from its former headquarters on Doughty Avenue to a new firehouse on High Street. Five years later, the Lincoln Hose company erected its new headquarters on Warren Street at no cost to local taxpayers.

After the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001, members of the Somerville Fire Department spent weeks in New York City participating in the rescue and recovery efforts. Today, the Somerville Fire Department con-

tinues a long and proud tradition of serving its community and surrounding municipalities, when called upon, with mutual assistance.

Madam Speaker, I ask you and my colleagues to join me in congratulating the Somerville Fire Department and its firefighters for one hundred and seventy five years of dedicated and admirable service.

#### IN RECOGNITION OF LYLE FRANK FOR HIS DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AS CHAIRMAN OF MANHATTAN COMMUNITY BOARD 6

#### HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 9, 2010*

Mrs. MALONEY. Madam Speaker, I rise to acknowledge the achievements of Mr. Lyle Frank on the occasion of his retirement as Chairman of New York City's Community Board 6. A tireless and dedicated community activist and civic volunteer, Lyle Frank is a consummate New Yorker who has distinguished himself in his career in both the public and private sectors.

A respected attorney, Lyle Frank has demonstrated a remarkable commitment to serving others through his public and community service. After graduating from New York University and Brooklyn Law School, Mr. Frank began his legal career as an Assistant District Attorney in Kings County, where he presented arguments in the "Megan's Law" hearings. He continued his legal career at Callan, Koster, Brady & Brennan, LLP, and later at Wilson, Elser, Moskowitz, Edelman & Dicker, LLP, serving as a lead attorney in New York Supreme Court trials involving personal injury. Currently a small claims arbitrator for the New York County Civil Court, he serves as Legal Counsel for the New York City Council's Committees on Parks and Recreation and on Lower Manhattan Redevelopment. Mr. Frank is also an adjunct professor at the New York University School of Continuing and Professional Studies. Most recently, he became an adjunct professor at Baruch College, where he is an advisor to students in the National Urban Fellowship Program that prepares students for leadership and management positions in government or non-profit agencies.

It is for his volunteer service as a Member and Chairman of Community Board 6 for which Mr. Frank is being honored by his fellow Board members and community residents on the evening of June 21, 2010. Community Board 6, which encompasses the East Side of Manhattan from 14th to 59th Streets along the East River, serves as the representative town meeting of the historic and nationally prominent neighborhoods that lie within its boundaries. It thus provides a voice to community residents and their concerns, running the gamut of issues from land use to traffic to sanitation and beyond. After joining the Board in 1994, Mr. Frank became a dedicated and energetic representative for his fellow citizens. His leadership abilities were recognized when he was elected Chairman of Manhattan's Community Board 6 in January of 2006. He has just concluded four years as Chairman. Community Board 6 residents are fortunate

that Lyle Frank will continue to serve their interests as a Member of the Board. Throughout all his professional and voluntary activity, Lyle Frank has fought for and secured immeasurable improvements to the quality of life of his fellow Manhattan residents.

Madam Speaker, in recognition of his tremendous contributions to the civic and public life of our nation's greatest city, I request that my colleagues join me in paying tribute to Mr. Lyle Frank, a great New Yorker and a great American. Lyle Frank's dedication to public and community serves as an inspiration to us all.

#### ISRAEL'S RIGHT TO DEFEND ITS BORDERS

#### HON. TODD RUSSELL PLATTS

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 9, 2010*

Mr. PLATTS. Madam Speaker, the loss of life is always regrettable, but it is wrong for members of the international community to rush to judgment against Israel with respect to the Gaza flotilla incident. Israel has a right to protect its borders and defend itself against terrorism.

The terrorist group Hamas is engaged in a war against Israel from inside Gaza. Israel unilaterally withdrew from Gaza in 2005 in the hopes of furthering peace. Instead, Hamas consolidated its power in Gaza and launched thousands of rockets and mortar shells against innocent Israeli civilians. Israel's blockade is an act of self-defense—a necessity to deny Hamas the weaponry it needs to continue in its acts of aggression.

Israel was willing to cooperate in a manner to ensure the flow of humanitarian aid to Gaza, as it has in the past. However, organizers of the flotilla appeared intent on provoking confrontation. Video has been released which indicates Israeli soldiers came under violent attack first, before the Israelis switched from using paint guns to using pistols in their own apparent self-defense.

The knee-jerk condemnation of Israel by some in the world community obscures two important facts that should never be forgotten: First, Israel is a democracy and an ally of the United States with a right to protect itself. Second, Hamas is a terrorist group that refuses to recognize the right of Israel to peaceably exist. As an investigation into the specific facts of the incident proceed, we must ensure that it is both balanced and respectful of these underlying facts.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

#### HON. JIM GERLACH

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 9, 2010*

Mr. GERLACH. Madam Speaker, unfortunately, on Tuesday, June 8, 2010, I missed two recorded votes on the House floor. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on Rollcall 337 and "yea" on Rollcall 338.



HONORING GRADUATING HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS FOR THEIR DECISION TO SERVE THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AS A MEMBER OF THE ARMED FORCES

### HON. ROBERT E. ANDREWS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 9, 2010

Mr. ANDREWS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor forty-seven high school seniors in Camden County for their commendable decision to enlist in the United States Armed Forces. Of these forty-seven, ten are with the New Jersey Army National Guard; their names are Gabriel Gonzalez-Galarza, Baruch Zepeda, Adam Knight, Carlos Watson, Kourtney Scott, Esamuel Tutt, Louis Alcantara-Narvaez, Timothy Johnson, Resheena Whittington, James Sheridan. Sixteen have joined the Marine Corps; their names are Peter Cuoco, James Baume, Robert Distefano, Ashley Fitzgibbons, Nicholas Lentz, Kyri Chandle, John McConnell, Mark Wyatt, Natasha Rodriguez, David Nguyen, Matthew Deeney, Donato Cancelli, Daehan Bong, Erick Mistretta, Pedro Aldebol, Jasmin Ramos. Three have joined the Air Force; their names are Marc Eisenmann, Jade Bates, Efrain Cardona. Five have joined the Navy; their names are Matthew Wilson, Nicolle Morris, Wayne Young, Nicholas Lugo, Eric Jacot. And fourteen have joined the Army; their names are Chelsea Hunter, Erik Coates, Francis Ayala, Jacob Lambeth, Zachary Tavani, Ryan Langley, Joseph Olivo, Alexander Gonzalez, John Wilson, Elizabeth Vollmar, Matthew Kline, Matthew Lincoln, Jacob Colman II, and David Reeves. All forty-seven will also be recognized on June 2nd at "Our Community Salutes of South Jersey."

Later this month, these young men and women will join with many of their classmates in celebration of graduation. At a time when many of their peers are looking forward to pursuing vocational training or college degrees, they instead have chosen to dedicate themselves to military service in defense of our country.

Naturally, many may be anxious about the uncertainties that may await them as members of the Armed Forces. But, they should rest assured that the full support and resources of this chamber, and of the American people, are with them in whatever challenges may lie ahead.

It is thanks to the dedication of untold numbers of patriots like these forty-seven that we are able to meet here today, in the House of Representatives, and openly debate the best solutions to the many and diverse problems that confront our country. It is thanks to their sacrifices that the United States of America remains a beacon of hope and freedom in a fractious world.

Madam Speaker, their decision to serve our country will not go unrecognized. I want to personally thank these forty-seven graduating seniors for the selflessness and courage that they have shown by volunteering to risk their lives in defense of others. We owe them, along with all those who serve our country, a deep debt of gratitude.

IN HONOR OF LIEUTENANT DAVID CURLIN

### HON. MIKE ROSS

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 9, 2010

Mr. ROSS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of a true American hero and dedicated community servant. Lieutenant David Curlin of the Pine Bluff Fire & Emergency Services Department in Arkansas. Lieutenant Curlin passed away on May 22, 2010, in Little Rock at the age of 40 from injuries sustained while fighting a fire in Pine Bluff on January 4, 2010.

Lieutenant Curlin was raised in Watson Chapel, AR, where he graduated from high school in 1988. After graduation, David joined the United States Marine Corps and served in Operation Desert Storm. Following his service in the Marine Corps David joined the Pine Bluff Fire & Emergency Services Department eventually rising to the rank of Lieutenant. Lieutenant Curlin served in Pine Bluff for 14 years while also volunteering with the Watson Chapel Volunteer Fire Department.

Lieutenant Curlin demonstrated the best of Arkansas and of America. As a Marine, he defended and served our great country with honor and pride. As a first responder, he dedicated his life and career to serving his neighbors and protecting his community. We need more heroes like Lieutenant Curlin. His presence will be deeply missed.

My deepest thoughts and prayers are with Lieutenant Curlin's wife Pamela; daughters, Tarah, Katherine and Kaylee; step-daughter, Haley; father and step-mother, George and Phyllis Curlin; mother and step-father, Rita and Joe Gronwald and his entire family during this extraordinarily difficult time.

Our nation is safer and stronger because of brave service members and first responders like Lieutenant Curlin. Today, I ask all Members of Congress to join me as we honor the life, legacy and service of Lieutenant David Curlin.

HONORING DR. FRANCES L. WHITE

### HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 9, 2010

Ms. WOOLSEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Dr. Frances L. White, a community college educator for 32 years who is retiring as the Superintendent/President of the Marin Community College District. Dr. White is a distinguished leader who is herself a community college graduate. She is a dedicated educator committed to the community college mission and to the welfare of students, particularly those in the 112 public community colleges in California.

A former full-time faculty member in the Peralta Community College District, Dr. White earned her Ph.D. in education administration from the University of California at Berkeley. As an administrator she has served in a variety of roles including President of Skyline College in San Bruno, California and Executive Vice Chancellor at City College of San Francisco. She is the recipient of many awards

and recognitions, the author of scholarly publications, and has directed numerous workshops on college leadership, mentoring, and institutional effectiveness. In March, the Association of California Community College Administrators awarded her the prestigious 2010 Harry Buttmer Distinguished Administrator Award.

Starting at College of Marin during a period of considerable turmoil, Dr. White is credited with working with the Board of Trustees and the Faculty to successfully stabilize a district plagued by decades of declining enrollments, crumbling classrooms, financial instability, poor community connections, and on the brink of accreditation loss. Capitalizing on her powerful personal qualities, White put a recovery plan in place and implemented a strategic direction that arrested the downward spiral and set the college on a visionary course.

A leader with considerable collaborative skills, Dr. White is a compassionate mentor, both to students and to colleagues. With her dedicated support, the Academic Senate developed and implemented Student Learning Outcomes and Program Review, essential for the institution to reestablish accreditation in good standing and what led the Academic Senate leaders to receive statewide recognition for their outstanding efforts.

Not one to shy from challenges, three weeks after taking the helm at College of Marin, the Board of Trustees passed a resolution to place a countywide facilities bond on the ballot. While most thought it would fail, under Dr. White's guidance and tireless work, the Measure C Bond was successful and received broad community support. The \$250 million bond made it possible for the College to undertake long-deferred facilities renovation and modernization creating newly designed and energy efficient, student-centered learning environments on both the Kentfield and Indian Valley campuses, which helped generate a 15% enrollment increase at Kentfield and a 135% enrollment increase at Indian Valley.

In addition to being a very competent administrator, Dr. White understands the importance of raising private funds for the College of Marin, and has been innovative in creating opportunities for friends of the college to support its mission. Launching the highly successful "President's Circle" as well as the "Education Excellence Innovation Fund," Dr. White has established an enviable budget reserve of 12 percent. The College has been very fortunate Dr. White came at a critical time and was able to initiate significant change and a notable shift in the institutional culture.

Madam Speaker, Dr. White is a gracious woman of remarkable talent and considerable commitment, and it is therefore appropriate to honor her today and to wish her well in her next endeavor. Congratulations, Fran White—you will be missed.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FOUNDING OF TRINITY LUTHERN CHURCH IN SPRINGFIELD, MISSOURI

### HON. ROY BLUNT

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 9, 2010

Mr. BLUNT. Madam Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to the Trinity Lutheran congregation of

Springfield, Missouri, celebrating its 100th year of service to the community and God. Trinity Lutheran is honoring this milestone with a year of special services, events and history displays.

Trinity Lutheran Church will welcome several preachers during this special year. Many who were integral to Trinity's 100-year history will honor and remember the congregation's growth, achievements and history of serving the Springfield area and bringing the word to worshipers.

Former Pastor Manny Rodriguez, who left to develop Amigos de Cristo, a mission church in Sedalia, is joining current Trinity Lutheran Pastor Bill R. Marler and Pastor Eric Tessaro to celebrate this anniversary. The pastors are encouraging the congregation to honor their history and consider long range plans to keep the spirit, message and mission of Trinity Lutheran fresh.

Like many churches 100 years ago struggling with finances, Trinity Lutheran began with a small group of households. Pastors from other congregations volunteered to minister in Springfield. Rev. A.F. Woker became the first pastor of Trinity in 1917. Soon, the congregation purchased property and constructed their first home. This building served them for three decades.

Today's well-known location of Trinity Lutheran is the result of a need to expand beyond the restrictions of its first home. As if divinely inspired, Trinity Lutheran moved into the wilderness of Greene County. This decision proved to be a blessing, placing the church in a location that would easily accommodate phenomenal growth in the 1950s and 1960s. It is still the congregation's home today.

Trinity's growth has also been guided by capable long-term pastors, each of whom were strong leaders and deeply rooted scriptural teachers. Such sound leadership and congregational support helped Trinity Lutheran create a number of new ministries, including campus ministry and a school.

Trinity Lutheran is one of Springfield's strong moral pillars, committed to the work of God and compassion for those less fortunate in our community. My hope is that Trinity Lutheran continues its heritage of strong leadership in Springfield for many centuries to come.

HONORING THE SERVICE OF  
SERGEANT THOMAS L. COLLINS

**HON. TIMOTHY H. BISHOP**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 9, 2010*

Mr. BISHOP of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend the intellect and dedication of Sergeant Thomas L. Collins, a life-long resident of East Hampton, New York, who received a medal and certificate of recognition from the British government for his service as a cryptologist during WWII. So secret was his work during the war, Sgt. Collins' invaluable contributions were not recognized and made public until the 1990s.

After distinguishing himself during training at Arlington Hall, the U.S. cryptography center, he was chosen to escort the Allies' most advanced code-breaking machine, the Dragon, to Britain in 1944. Sgt. Collins carried a loaded Smith & Wesson revolver at all times during

his journey, a testament to the dangerous nature of his mission and the valuable cargo he guarded.

In October 1944, after landing in Scotland, he and the Dragon were transported by rail and truck to the renowned Allied cryptography center at Bletchley Park, and immediately put to use as Allied forces had their first battle on German soil, at Aachen. All told, Sgt. Collins used the Dragon to decode 143 Nazi messages. He was also instrumental in designing a successor to the original Dragon, which was credited with hastening the defeat of the Nazis by many weeks.

Madam Speaker, heroism has many faces, and the labors of dedicated code breakers hundreds of miles from the front lines saved many lives by providing our fighting forces the best intelligence available. Sgt. Collins is a living reminder of the varied contributions made by members of the Greatest Generation in defending freedom. I humbly join the British Government in honoring the wartime service of Sgt. Thomas L. Collins.

RECOGNIZING OHIO CHRISTIAN  
UNIVERSITY'S GRADUATING  
CLASS OF 2010

**HON. STEVE AUSTRIA**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 9, 2010*

Mr. AUSTRIA. Madam Speaker, on behalf of the people of Ohio's Seventh Congressional District, I am honored to recognize Ohio Christian University's graduating class of 2010.

Over the past years, these students have earned academic excellence and grown both spiritually and resourcefully. It was a privilege to attend the University's ceremony and witness such an achievement, as our future leaders are sent out into the community.

Thus, with great pride, I congratulate Ohio Christian University's graduating class of 2010 for its exemplary success and wish each graduate the best in their future endeavors.

RECOGNIZING THE CHICAGO  
HUMAN RHYTHM PROJECT

**HON. MIKE QUIGLEY**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 9, 2010*

Mr. QUIGLEY. Madam Speaker, today I rise in recognition of the Chicago Human Rhythm Project's 20th anniversary. Over the last 20 years, the Chicago Human Rhythm Project's extraordinary community building efforts and celebration of American tap and percussive arts has firmly established them as one of Chicago's artistic mainstays.

Founded in 1990, the Chicago Human Rhythm Project, CHRP, has maintained community outreach as the cornerstone of its success. Most notably, CHRP has educated over 10,000 students and provided over \$250,000 in scholarships to students in need to study tap dance during the summer. CHRP has also provided a free outreach residency school program for elementary, high school, and cultural centers throughout the Chicagoland area. The cultivation of a stronger America through art is

further exemplified through their participation in the "Thanks 4 Giving" shared revenue program. Since joining "Thanks 4 Giving" six years ago, CHRP has raised over \$100,000 for charity.

CHRP's dedication to community extends beyond Chicago, Illinois and the United States of America with their involvement in an ongoing cultural exchange program. This program has given CHRP the opportunity to spread American tap dance across the globe by participating in exchanges with Brazil, China, Finland, France, Germany, Japan, Switzerland, and Venezuela. As a result of their commitment to the international community, CHRP was selected to represent the United States of America at the 5th Anniversary Beijing International Contemporary Dance Festival in 2007 and the Gala de Estrellas Internacional in Caracas, Venezuela in 2008.

Madam Speaker, I want to thank the Chicago Human Rhythm Project for their continued efforts. It is through their unabashed commitment to the arts and the community at large that they have helped to perpetuate the love affair with American dance and to establish Chicago as a global fine arts destination.

HONORING SISTER ROSEMARIE  
NASSIF, SSND, PHD

**HON. BARBARA LEE**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 9, 2010*

Ms. LEE of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Sister Rosemarie Nassif, SSND, PhD, for her celebrated and successful 11-year tenure as Holy Names University President. On the occasion of her retirement, we recognize the quality and excellence of Sister Rosemarie's career and her talents as a dynamic and inspirational leader. During her time as president, Holy Names University has witnessed record-breaking enrollment, noted student diversity, expanded academic and sports programming, improved facilities, increased alumni participation and overall acclaim.

Sister Rosemarie's religious calling came early in life, and at the age of 17, she entered the School Sisters of Notre Dame. During her early career back East, Sister Rosemarie gained a breadth of experience as Associate Professor of Notre Dame College, St. Louis College of Pharmacy and Co-Vicar for the Archdiocese of St. Louis, Missouri. In Baltimore, she became President of the College of Notre Dame of Maryland and later, President of the Fund for Educational Excellence before leaving that post to join Holy Names University on May 1, 1999.

With a 140-year tradition of providing educational excellence in the Bay Area, Holy Names University, HNU, is a premier, private university founded by the Sisters of the Holy Names of Jesus and Mary and co-educational since 1971. Upon Sister Rosemarie's arrival, the university entered a period of "refoundation," where she, along with faculty and leadership, assessed the university's strengths and the critical needs of their students for the 21st century. She described this process as making the best match between tradition and innovation, while stretching to meet any challenges at hand. With foresight, dedication and solid

teamwork, Sister Rosemarie introduced a five-year strategic plan to the Board of Trustees, later accomplishing every goal she addressed.

She led the institution in achieving the maximum 10-year accreditation by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges, oversaw the highest and most diverse enrollment in the university's history and surpassed initial fundraising goals to raise \$5.3 million in a successful \$7 million campaign to transform the science facilities.

She added four new athletic programs, completed a New Center for Social Justice and Civic Engagement, and made campus-wide technological advances, including student information and enrollment systems, a Technology Support Center for students and a state-of-the-art video conference studio for multi-state nursing programs. Additionally, HNU added five new baccalaureate majors, four new master's programs, returned to stable financial footing and completed The Campus Master Plan through 2012.

Sister Rosemarie's accomplishments will leave an indelible mark on the HNU campus, but the legacy of her work represents so much more than tangible results. Her personal commitment to shaping a unique learning experience that explores and celebrates the beauty of differences has forever touched the lives of students, faculty, alumni, trustees and local community leaders.

Her service has empowered countless women and men from underrepresented cultures and nations throughout the world to practice civic engagement, tolerance and critical thinking. And, as President Emerita Sr., she will continue to serve students through the Frieda Mary Nassif Scholarship award, named for her mother.

On behalf of California's 9th Congressional District, I want to extend my congratulations on this important milestone. Thank you, Sister Rosemarie Nassif, for all that you do. I wish you continued success in this next chapter of life.

**HONORING GARRETT WITTELS OF FIU FOR EXTENDING HIS HITTING STREAK TO 56 GAMES**

**HON. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 9, 2010*

Mr. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor Garrett Wittels of Florida International University, FIU, who has extended his hitting streak to an astonishing 56 consecutive games.

Garrett has been a standout student-athlete since his days at Dr. Michael Krop Senior High School in Miami, Florida. While there, he made the Miami Herald's All-Miami-Dade teams from 2006 to 2008, was selected as team MVP his sophomore and senior seasons and posted a .420 average with six home runs and 29 RBI's during his senior campaign. He was recruited by the University of Miami, North Carolina State, and Louisville, but he chose to attend FIU, Miami's first and only four-year public research university. With a student body of nearly 40,000, FIU is one of the 25 largest universities in the nation.

While he began his collegiate baseball career with moderate success, he is now

headlining sports pages and captivating the nation with his amazing feat. As FIU battled to stay alive in the NCAA Regionals of the College World Series, Garrett extended his hitting streak to 56-consecutive games; a streak which began on February 19, 2010. This matches the Major League Baseball record held by Yankee great and Hall of Famer, Joe DiMaggio, who hit in 56-straight games in 1941. The only other person with a longer streak in college than Garrett is the all-time Division I record holder, Robin Ventura of Oklahoma State University, who hit safely in 58-consecutive games in 1987.

Garrett helped lead FIU to the Sun Belt Conference Championship and a berth in this year's College World Series. Garrett had 100 hits in 2010, which set the single-season record for FIU; he was selected as the 2010 Sun Belt Conference Baseball Player of the Year; and was named to the Louisville Slugger All-American Baseball Team (first team).

While he is showing the nation that he can excel on the diamond, less attention is being focused on his achievements off of it. He has made the Academic Honor roll as he works towards his degree in Sports Management. He shows us that he is as dedicated to hitting the books as to hitting line-drives. He is a true scholar-athlete and a fine example for other young athletes to emulate.

Unfortunately, we'll have to wait till next season to see if Garrett can continue his streak but, I'd like to take the time to congratulate Garrett Wittels, his family, his teammates, and the entire FIU community, for being one step closer to baseball immortality. We all look forward to the start of FIU's 2011 baseball season and Garrett's pursuit of the record.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATIONS

**HON. LAURA RICHARDSON**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 9, 2010*

Ms. RICHARDSON. Madam Speaker, yesterday was primary Election Day in my state of California, which necessitated by remaining in my congressional district on Tuesday, June 8, 2010, through Wednesday morning, June 9, 2010. Consequently, I was unable to return in time for rollcall Votes 337 through 339.

I ask the RECORD to reflect that had I been present I would have voted as follows:

1. On rollcall No. 337, I would have voted "aye" (June 8) (H.R. 1061, Hoh Indian Tribe Safe Homelands Act).

2. On rollcall No. 338, I would have voted "aye" (June 8) (H. Res. 518, Honoring the life of Jacques-Yves Cousteau, explorer, researcher, and pioneer in the field of marine conservation).

3. On rollcall No. 339, I would have voted "aye" (June 9) (Motion on Ordering the Previous Question on the Rule for H.R. 5072—FHA Reform Act of 2010 (H. Res. 1424)).

#### OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL DEBT

**HON. MIKE COFFMAN**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 9, 2010*

Mr. COFFMAN of Colorado. Madam Speaker, today our national debt is \$13,056,957,049,453.42.

On January 6, 2009, the start of the 111th Congress, the national debt was \$10,638,425,746,293.80.

This means the national debt has increased by \$2,418,531,303,159.60 so far this Congress.

This debt and its interest payments we are passing to our children and all future Americans.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. BART STUPAK**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 9, 2010*

Mr. STUPAK. Madam Speaker, on Monday, May 24, 2010 and Friday, May 28, 2010, I was absent for votes due to family commitments. Had I been present, I would have voted on the following:

House rollcall vote 291—I would have voted "yes"; House rollcall vote 292—I would have voted "yes"; House rollcall vote 293—I would have voted "yes"; House rollcall vote 324—I would have voted "yes"; House rollcall vote 325—I would have voted "no"; House rollcall vote 326—I would have voted "no"; House rollcall vote 327—I would have voted "no"; House rollcall vote 328—I would have voted "no"; House rollcall vote 329—I would have voted "yes"; House rollcall vote 330—I would have voted "yes"; House rollcall vote 331—I would have voted "no"; House rollcall vote 332—I would have voted "yes"; House rollcall vote 333—I would have voted "yes"; House rollcall vote 334—I would have voted "yes"; House rollcall vote 335—I would have voted "no"; House rollcall vote 336—I would have voted "yes."

**HONORING RAUL H. CASTRO, FORMER GOVERNOR OF ARIZONA**

**HON. ED PASTOR**

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 9, 2010*

Mr. PASTOR of Arizona. Madam Speaker, while many have written of the inspirational story surrounding Raul Hector Castro, Arizona's first Hispanic Governor, it seems only fitting that in today's highly charged atmosphere of anti-immigrant sentiment, we take the occasion of Governor Castro's 93rd birthday on June 12th to examine his life as one who has surely proven the American dream is achievable. In fact, he has not only shown that dream is achievable, he has also underscored the fact that those pursuing the dream contribute mightily to the strength of our Nation.

Born in Mexico, the second youngest of 12 children raised in Arizona by an immigrant

copper miner and a mother who was a well-trusted midwife, it would have been easy for him to get lost in the shuffle of such a large family that had to scratch a living from the ground to survive, but early on, he recognized the value of setting goals and not giving up until they are met. Based on that determination, he parlayed his natural athleticism and keen mind in high school into a scholarship to Arizona State Teacher's College.

While no stranger to racism and discrimination when he graduated from college and become a naturalized citizen in 1939, he still had not anticipated the rejection he would experience when applying for teaching positions because school districts were unwilling to hire an Hispanic teacher. Discouraged, but not defeated, he traveled America for several years until he landed a civil service job as a foreign-service clerk for the U.S. State Department in Sonora, Mexico. Many would have been satisfied with a secure position in the Federal Government, but he was determined to further his station in life, becoming a Spanish instructor at the University of Arizona so that he might attend the institution's law school. Passing the Arizona State Bar in 1949, he established an enviable career over the next five decades that took him from Pima County Attorney through the appointment by two United States Presidents to three ambassadorships, in addition to becoming Arizona's first Hispanic governor. Throughout this process, he never lost sight of the importance of an education and his mother's mantra that he could accomplish whatever he set his mind to. As a result, when he did accomplish more than many ever hoped for, he didn't forget the 4 miles he and his Hispanic friends had to walk to school while the buses filled with Anglo children passed them by, and he worked tirelessly to rectify these kinds of incomprehensible bigotry.

For example, as a judge he presided over a full-schedule of cases, but was particularly disturbed by the vulnerable at-risk youngsters in the juvenile court system who were being shoved under the rug by society. This inspired him to take time every Monday to check attendance records at the local high schools. In the evenings, he would visit with families of students exhibiting high rates of absenteeism in an effort to get their support in encouraging the students to stay in school and make the most of that experience. This concern for improving society continued throughout his career. Sometimes limited to simply seeing Hispanic children given equal access to the YMCA, to concentrating on improving human rights abroad while serving as an ambassador, he never lost sight of using his opportunities to make a difference.

Throughout our history it has been proven that immigrants are far more than just an inexpensive work force. They are in fact a valuable asset to this country and Raul H. Castro is an outstanding example of one such person. Therefore, in light of today's divisive view of immigration, his story should be noted as a symbol of how the United States has benefitted from those who value this country so much, and that after moving here to build a better life for their families, they remain dedicated to making sure that they improve our Nation for future generations.

## HONORING THE 60TH ANNIVERSARY OF SCHOOLCRAFT MEMORIAL HOSPITAL

### HON. BART STUPAK

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 9, 2010*

Mr. STUPAK. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize Schoolcraft Memorial Hospital as it celebrates its 60th anniversary serving residents in Schoolcraft County and across Michigan's Upper Peninsula. Schoolcraft Memorial Hospital is known both for the quality of care it provides and its leadership role in keeping the community active and healthy.

Located along Lake Michigan's northern shores in Manistique, Michigan, Schoolcraft Memorial Hospital is a 25-bed progressive critical access hospital, offering comprehensive medical and surgical care, health care in 30 specialties including cardiology and neurology, a 24-hour physician staffed emergency room, a walk-in clinic, physical and occupational therapy, cardiac rehabilitation and a wide range of diagnostic services. It has also opened a number of clinics throughout Schoolcraft County, as well as a fitness center to increase access to health care services and improve health and wellness in the community and surrounding areas.

Schoolcraft Memorial Hospital's excellence has been widely recognized. The hospital received the Michigan Center for Rural Health's 2009 Michigan Rural Health Quality Improvement Award—Award for Excellence for its work to improve care processes in the treatment of heart failure and pneumonia and emergency room transfers. It also was named a 2008 "Hero for the Uninsured" by the Upper Peninsula Health Access Coalition. These awards highlight Schoolcraft Memorial Hospital's commitment to continuously improving the care it provides and its dedication to serving the community.

However, the physicians, staff and administrators of Schoolcraft Memorial Hospital are not known to rest on their laurels. Rather, they are steadfast in looking ahead to the hospital's future growth and improvements. Whether it's the acquisition of new rehab equipment, like the "omnicycle," converting electronic medical records to email to save money and space; upgrading current facilities to include a new CT scan room, triage room and emergency room treatment room; or working towards the development and construction of a brand new replacement facility, Schoolcraft Memorial Hospital strives to provide its patients with the most positive experience and effective treatment possible.

Madam Speaker, Schoolcraft Memorial Hospital provides its patients with hometown familiarity combined with state-of-the-art services. Over the years, it has continued to innovate, grow and provide critical health care services to Schoolcraft County. Therefore, I ask Madam Speaker, that you, and the entire U.S. House of Representatives, join me in recognizing Schoolcraft Memorial Hospital on its 60th anniversary.

## EASTERN RANDOLPH SOFTBALL TEAM WINS IT ALL

### HON. HOWARD COBLE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 9, 2010*

Mr. COBLE. Madam Speaker, on behalf of the citizens of the Sixth District of North Carolina, we wish to extend our congratulations to the Eastern Randolph softball team for winning the North Carolina High School Athletic Association 2-A state softball championship. There is no doubt that the level of athleticism and fortitude these young women possess is without reproach.

Eastern Randolph's journey to the state title was one of a remarkable comeback. After being placed in the loser's bracket early in the competition after their first encounter with Central Davidson the team was disappointed, but even more determined. Having successfully defeated South Lenior, the Eastern Wildcats faced Central once again in the championship game.

Led by pitcher and Most Valuable Player Jessica Gordan, the Wildcats defeated the Central Spartans 9–2. After pitching three games during the tournament, Gordan tossed a three-hitter with only two walks and three strikeouts. The entire team exhibited superior athletic ability and are well-deserving of their first state title in Eastern's school history.

Team members include: Rachel Burgess, Jana Cheek, Liza Elliott, Jessica Gordon, Dallas Heaton, Kailey Hill, Olivia Millikan, Codie Rhodes, Gina Ritter, Brittainy Rush, Kayla Saliga, Kaitlyn Scheuering. The team was led by Head Coach Randall Myers and his assistants Richard Thomas, Gary Heaton and Tony Hill. Also contributing were team managers Leslie Honeycutt and Chesley Honeycutt.

Again, on behalf of the Sixth District of North Carolina, we would like to congratulate the Eastern Randolph softball team, the faculty, staff, students, and fans for an outstanding season.

## COMMENDING ELKS LODGE IN FOREST GROVE, OREGON, FOR CELEBRATING FLAG DAY

### HON. DAVID WU

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 9, 2010*

Mr. WU. Madam Speaker, as Flag Day approaches, I rise to pay tribute to our Nation and to commend the Elks Lodge in Forest Grove, Oregon, for celebrating Flag Day in my district.

The United States flag is a hallmark of the enduring character of America. In 1818, Congress passed legislation that provided the basic design of our flag, with 13 stripes honoring the 13 original colonies and one star per state.

Throughout our history citizens have honored the flag and the principles for which it stands, but we did not have an official day honoring our flag until President Woodrow Wilson issued a presidential proclamation in 1916 establishing Flag Day. In 1949, congressional legislation designating June 14 as national Flag Day was signed into law by President Harry Truman.

I am pleased to offer my thanks and support to the Elks Lodge of Forest Grove, Oregon, which has organized a Flag Day celebration to educate the community about our flag and its history. The Order of the Elks promotes American principles of individual freedom, opportunity, and dignity, consistent with the principles that the U.S. flag represents.

I am honored to provide the Elks Lodge of Forest Grove with a flag flown over the U.S. Capitol for their celebration, and I thank them for their service to our community and Nation.

CELEBRATING THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FRIENDS OF THE PARKS AND TRAILS OF ST. PAUL AND RAMSEY COUNTY

**HON. BETTY McCOLLUM**

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 9, 2010

Ms. McCOLLUM. Madam Speaker, today I rise to congratulate the Friends of the Parks and Trails of St. Paul and Ramsey County, on the occasion of the 25th anniversary of the organization. Since it was established in 1985, this group has been dedicated to serving and promoting parks and green spaces in St. Paul, Minnesota, and surrounding communities.

Executive Director Peggy Lynch has been there every step of the way, first leading a group of citizens to found the organization to keep a massive high-rise development out of Hidden Fall/Crosby Regional Park in order to preserve green space for everyone in our community. The Friends of the Parks and trails has since developed into a broad, membership-supported nonprofit group.

The Friends of the Parks has proven their commitment to St. Paul and Ramsey County parks by promoting open space preservation, protection, improvement, and development of new parks. And as a vital member of the community the Friends of the Parks have successfully laid the foundation for lasting change by working with St. Paul and Ramsey County to require no "net loss" of parkland in any deals the city or county makes, and also helped to create city and county park commissions.

Parks are essential to Minnesotans. They not only provide recreational opportunities and a connection to the natural world, they also provide employment, economic development and increase property values. For 25 years, the Friends of the Parks and Trails have been serving my community, ensuring that all Minnesotans have the opportunity to benefit from the positive resources provided by parks. This deserves our thanks, support and commendation.

Madam Speaker, please join me in rising to honor the 25th anniversary of the Friends of the Parks and Trails of St. Paul and Ramsey County, Peggy Lynch, and all its members and volunteers for their hard work and constant dedication to ensuring parks and green space are available for all to enjoy.

OSCE REPRESENTATIVE CITES  
THREATS TO FREE MEDIA

**HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 9, 2010

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Madam Speaker, as Co-Chairman of the Helsinki Commission, I wish to draw the attention of colleagues to the timely and informative testimony of the OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media, Dunja Mijatovic, who testified earlier today at a Commission hearing on "Threats to Free Media in the OSCE Region." She focused on various threats to journalists and independent media outlets, including physical attacks and adoption of repressive laws on the media as well as other forms of harassment. Most troubling is the murder of journalists because of their professional activities. According to the U.S.-based Committee to Protect Journalists, 52 journalists have been killed in Russia alone since 1992, many reporting on corruption or human rights violations. Ms. Mijatovic also flagged particular concern over existing and emerging threats to freedom on the Internet and other communications technologies. She also voiced concern over the use of criminal statutes on defamation, libel and insult which are used by some OSCE countries to silence journalists or force the closure of media outlets. With respect to the situation in the United States, she urged adoption of a shield law at the federal level to create a journalists' privilege for federal proceedings. Such a provision was part of the Free Flow of Information Act of 2009, which passed the House early in the Congress and awaits consideration by the full Senate.

As one who has worked to promote democracy, human rights and the rule of law in the 56 countries that comprise the OSCE, I share many of the concerns raised by Ms. Mijatovic in her testimony and commend them to them to colleagues.

ORGANIZATION FOR SECURITY AND CO-OPERATION IN EUROPE REPRESENTATIVE ON FREEDOM OF THE MEDIA

(By Dunja Mijatovic)

[From the Helsinki Commission Hearing on the Threats to Free Media in the OSCE Region, June 9, 2010]

Dear Chairmen, Distinguished Commissioners, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I am honored to be invited to this hearing before the Helsinki Commission at the very beginning of my mandate. I feel privileged to speak before you today. The Helsinki Commission's welcoming statement issued on the day of my appointment is a clear manifestation of the strong support you continuously show toward the work of this unique Office, and I assure you, distinguished Commissioners, that this fact is very much appreciated.

It will be three months tomorrow since I took office as the new Representative on Freedom of the Media to the OSCE. Even though three months may sound short, it has proved more than enough to gain a deep insight, and unfortunately also voice concerns, about the decline of media freedom in many of the 56 countries that today constitute the OSCE.

Although the challenges and dangers that journalists face in our countries may differ from region to region, one sad fact holds true everywhere: The freedom to express ourselves is questioned and challenged from

many sides. Some of these challenges are blatant, others concealed; some of them follow traditional methods to silence free speech and critical voices, some use new technologies to suppress and restrict the free flow of information and media pluralism; and far too many result in physical harassment and deadly violence against journalists.

Today, I would like to draw your attention to the constant struggle of so many institutions and NGOs around the world, including your Commission and my Institution, to combat and ultimately stop violence against journalists. I would also like to address several other challenges that I want to place in the center of my professional activities, each of which I intend to improve by relentlessly using the public voice I am now given at the OSCE.

Let me first start with violence against journalists.

Ever since it was created in 1997, my Office has been raising attention to the alarming increase of violent attacks against journalists. Not only is the high number of violent attacks against journalists a cause for concern. Equally alarming is the authorities' far too prevalent willingness to classify many of the murders as unrelated to the journalists' professional activities. We also see that more and more often critical speech is being punished with questionable charges brought against the journalists.

Impunity of perpetrators and the responsible authorities' passivity in investigating and failing to publicly condemn these murders breeds further violence. There are numerous cases that need to be raised over and over again. We need to continue to loudly repeat the names of these courageous individuals who lost their lives for the words they have written. I am sorry for all those whom I will not mention today; but the names that follow are on the list that I call "the Hall of Shame" of those governments that still have not brought to justice the perpetrators of the horrifying murders that happened in their countries.

The most recent murder of a journalist in the OSCE area is the one of the Kyrgyz opposition journalist Gennady Pavlyuk (Bely Parokhod), who was killed in Kazakhstan in December last year. It gives me hope that the new Interim Government of Kyrgyzstan has announced to save no efforts to bring the perpetrators to justice, as well as those involved in the 2007 murder of Alisher Saipov (Siyosat).

The Russian Federation remains the OSCE participating State where most members of the media are killed. Paul Klebnikov (Forbes, Russia), Anna Politkovskaya (Novaya Gazeta), Anastasia Baburova (Novaya Gazeta), are the most reported about, but let us also remember Magomed Yevloyev (Ingushetiya), Ivan Safronov (Kommersant), Yury Shchekochikhin (Novaya Gazeta), Igor Domnikov (Novaya Gazeta), Vladislav Listyev (ORT), Dmitry Kholodov (Moskovsky Komsomolets) and many others.

We also should not forget the brutal murders of the following journalists, some remain unresolved today:

Hrant Dink (Agos) Armenian Turkish journalist was shot in 2007 in Turkey.

Elmar Huseynov (Monitor) was murdered in 2005 in Azerbaijan.

Georgy Gongadze (Ukrainskaya Pravda) was killed in 2000 in Ukraine.

In Serbia, Slavko Curuvija (Dnevni Telegraf) was murdered in 1999, and Milan Pantic (Vecernje Novosti) was killed in 2001. In Montenegro, Dusko Jovanovic (Dan), was shot dead in 2004.

In Croatia, Ivo Pukanic (Nacional) and his marketing director, Niko Franjic, were killed by a car bomb in 2008.

Violence against journalists equals violence against society and democracy, and it should be met with harsh condemnation and prosecution of the perpetrators. There can be no improvement without an overhaul of the very apparatus of prosecution and law enforcement, starting from the very top of the Government pyramid.

There is no true press freedom as long as journalists have to fear for their lives while performing their work. The OSCE commitments oblige all participating States to provide safety to these journalists, and I will do my best to pursue this goal with the mandate I am given and with all professional tools at my disposal.

We also observe another very worrying trend; more and more often the imprisonment of critical journalists based on political motivations including fabricated charges. Let me mention some cases:

In Azerbaijan, the prominent editor-in-chief of the now-closed independent Russian-language weekly, *Realny Azerbaijan*, and Azeri-language daily, *Gundalik Azarbaycan*, Eynulla Fatullayev was sentenced in 2007 to a cumulative eight-and-a-half years in prison on charges on defamation, incitement of ethnic hatred, terrorism and tax evasion. The European Court of Human Rights (ECtHR) found Azerbaijan in violation of Article 10 and Article 6, paragraphs 1 and 2 of the European Convention on Human Rights, so there is only one possible outcome—Fatullayev should be immediately released.

In Kazakhstan, Ramazan Yesergepov, the editor of *Alma-Ata Info*, is serving a three-year prison term on charges of disclosing state secrets.

Emin Milli and Adnan Hajizade, bloggers from Azerbaijan, are serving two and a half years and two years in prison respectively since July 2009 on charges of hooliganism and infliction of light bodily injuries.

In Uzbekistan, two independent journalists, Dilmurod Saidi (a freelancer) and Solijon Abdurahmanov (*Uznews*), are currently serving long jail sentences (twelve-and-a-half-years and ten years) on charges of extortion and drug possession.

I will continue to raise my voice and demand the immediate release of media workers imprisoned for their critical work.

I join Chairman Cardin for commending independent journalists in the Helsinki Commission's recent statement on World Press Freedom Day. These professionals pursue truth wherever it may lead them, often at great personal risk. They indeed play a crucial and indispensable role in advancing democracy and human rights. By highlighting these murder and imprisonment cases, by no means do I intend to neglect other forms of harassment or intimidation that also have a threatening effect on journalists. Let me just recall that, with the heightened security concerns in the last decade, police and prosecutors have increasingly raided editorial offices, journalists' homes, or seized their equipment to find leaks that were perceived as security threats.

#### SUPPRESSION AND RESTRICTION OF INTERNET FREEDOM

Turning to the problems facing Internet freedom, we can see that new media have changed the communications and education landscape in an even more dramatic manner than did the broadcast media in the last half century. Under my mandate, the challenge has remained the same: how to safeguard or enhance pluralism and the free flow of information, both classical Helsinki obligations within the OSCE.

It was in 1998 that I read the words of Vinton G. Cerf in his article called "Truth and the Internet". It perfectly summarizes the nature of the Internet and the ways it can create freedom.

Dr. Cerf calls the Internet one of the most powerful agents of freedom: It exposes truth to those who wish to see it. But he also warns us that the power of the Internet is like a two-edged sword: it can also deliver misinformation and uncorroborated opinion with equal ease. The thoughtful and the thoughtless co-exist side by side in the Internet's electronic universe. What is to be done, asks Cerf.

His answer is to apply critical thinking. Consider the Internet as an opportunity to educate us all. We truly must think about what we see and hear, and we must evaluate and select. We must choose our guides. Furthermore, we must also teach our children to think more deeply about what they see and hear. That, more than any electronic filter, he says, will build a foundation upon which truth can stand.

Today, this foundation upon which truth could indeed so firmly stand is under continuous pressure by governments. As soon as governments realized that the Internet challenges secrecy and censorship, corruption, inefficiency and bad governing, they started imposing controls on it. In many countries and in many ways the effects are visible and they indeed threaten the potential for information to circulate freely.

The digital age offers the promise of a truly democratic culture of participation and interactivity. Realizing that promise is the challenge of our times. In the age of the borderless Internet, the protection of the right to Freedom of Expression "regardless of frontiers" takes on a new and more powerful meaning.

In an age of rapid technological change and convergence, archaic governmental controls over the media are increasingly unjust, indefensible and ultimately unsustainable. Despite progress, many challenges remain, including the lack of or poor quality of national legislation relating to freedom of information, a low level of implementation in many OSCE member states and existing political resistance.

The importance of providing free access for all people anywhere in the world can not be raised often enough in the public arena, and cannot be discussed often enough among stakeholders: civil society, media, as well as local and international authorities.

Freedom of speech is more than a choice about which media products to consume.

Media freedom and freedom of speech in the digital age also mean giving everyone—not just a small number of people who own the dominant modes of mass communication, but ordinary people, too—an opportunity to use these new technologies to participate, interact, build, route around and talk about whatever they wish—be it politics, public issues or popular culture. The Internet fundamentally affects how we live. It offers extraordinary opportunities for us to learn, trade, connect, create and also to safeguard human rights and strengthen democratic values. It allows us to hear each other, see each other and speak to each other. It can connect isolated people and help them through their personal problems.

These rights, possibilities and ideals are at the heart of the Helsinki Process and the OSCE principles and commitments that we share. We must find the best ways to spread access to the Internet, so that the whole world can benefit from what it can offer, rather than increasing the existing gaps between those who have access to information and those who do not. And to those governments who fear and distrust the openness brought along by the Internet, let me emphasize over and over again:

The way a society uses the new communications technologies and how it responds to economic, political and cultural

globalization will determine the very future of that society. Restrict access to information, and your chances to develop will become restricted. Open up the channels of free communication, and your society will find ways to prosper.

I was delighted to hear Secretary of State Clinton speak about a basic freedom in her January speech on Internet freedom in the "Newseum". This freedom is the freedom to connect. Secretary Clinton rightly calls this freedom the freedom of assembly in cyber space. It allows us to come together online, and shape our society in fundamental ways. Fame or money is no longer a requisite to immensely affect our world.

My Office is rapidly developing a comprehensive strategy to identify the main problems related to Internet regulation in the 56 countries of the OSCE, and ways to address these issues. I will count on the support of the Helsinki Commission to advance the universal values that this strategy will attempt to extend to those countries where these values are still being questioned.

Let me also mention the importance to protect the freedom of other new technologies.

Only two weeks ago, my Office organized the 12th Central Asia Media Conference in Dushanbe, Tajikistan, where media professionals from all five Central Asian countries adopted a declaration on access to information and new technologies. This document calls on OSCE governments to facilitate the freer and wider dissemination of information, including through modern information and communication technologies, so as to ensure wide access of the public to governmental information.

It also reiterates that new technologies strengthen democracy by ensuring easy access to information, and calls upon state institutions with legislative competencies to refrain from adopting new legislation that would restrict the free flow of information. And only this spring my Office published a guide to the digital switchover, to assist the many OSCE countries where the switch from analogue to digital will take place in the next five years. The aim of the guide is to help plan the digitalization process, and help ensure that it positively affects media freedom, as well as the choice and quality available to the audience.

Besides advocating the importance of good digitalization strategies, I will also use all available fora to raise attention to the alarming lack of broadcast pluralism, especially television broadcast pluralism, in many OSCE countries. As television is the main source of information in many OSCE regions, we must ensure that the laws allow for diverse, high-quality programs and objective news to easily reach every one of us. Only well-informed citizens can make good choices and further democratic values. Whether we talk about Internet regulation, inventive ways to switch to digital while preserving the dominance of a few selected broadcasters, attempts to limit access to information or broadcast pluralism, we must keep one thing in mind: No matter what governments do, in the long run, their attempts to regulate is a lost battle.

People always find ways to obtain the rights that are denied to them. History has shown this over and over again. In the short run, however, it is very clear that I will intervene with governments which try to restrict the free flow of information.

#### DEFAMATION

Similar to fighting violence against journalists, my Office has been campaigning since its establishment in 1997 to decriminalize defamation and libel in the entire OSCE region.



Unfortunately, in most countries, defamation is still punishable by imprisonment, which threatens the existence of critical speech in the media. This is so despite the consistent rulings of the European Court of Human Rights in Strasbourg, stating that imprisonment for speech offences, especially when committed by criticizing public figures, is a disproportionate punishment.

Let us again remind ourselves of the journalists and bloggers I have mentioned above when discussing violence against journalists. They are currently in prison because their writing was considered defamatory. Their fate reminds us all of the importance of the right to freely speak our mind.

This problem needs urgent reform not only in the new, but also in the old democracies of the OSCE. Although the obsolete criminal provisions have not been used in Western Europe for decades, their "chilling effect" remained.

Furthermore, the mere existence of these provisions has served as a justification for other states that are unwilling to stop the criminalization of journalistic errors, and instead leave these offenses solely to the civil-law domain.

Currently, defamation is a criminal offence in all but ten OSCE countries—my home country Bosnia and Herzegovina, Cyprus, Estonia, Georgia, Ireland, Moldova, Romania, Ukraine, the United Kingdom and the United States.

Last year, three OSCE countries decriminalized defamation, which I consider to be an enormous success: Ireland, Romania and the United Kingdom; the last being the first among the Western European participating States to officially decriminalize defamation.

Some other countries, such as Armenia, are currently reforming their defamation provisions, and I hope that I can soon welcome the next country that carries out this important and very long overdue reform.

#### CONCLUDING REMARKS

Dear Chairmen,  
Dear Commissioners,  
Ladies and Gentlemen,

The above problematic areas—violence against journalists, restrictions of new media including the Internet, lack of pluralism and resistance to decriminalize defamation—are among the most urgent media freedom problems that need our attention and concentrated efforts today. However, we will also not forget about the many other fields where there is plenty of room to improve. Of course, I will not miss the excellent opportunity that we are here together today to raise your attention to the topic that my distinguished predecessor, Miklos Haraszti, has already raised with you: the establishment and the adoption of a federal shield law in the United States.

As you know, my Office has been a dedicated promoter of the federal shield law for many years. If passed, the Free Flow of Information Act would provide a stronger protection to journalists; it could ensure that imprisonments such as that of Judith Miller in 2005, and Josh Wolf in 2006, could never again take place and hinder investigative journalism. But the passage of such legislation would resonate far further than within the borders of the United States of America. It could send a very much needed signal and set a precedent to all the countries where protection of sources is still opposed by the government and is still not more than a dream for journalists.

I respectfully ask all of you, distinguished Commissioners, to continue and even increase your efforts to enable that the Free Flow of Information Act soon becomes the latest protector of media freedom in the United States.

And of course I cannot close my speech without mentioning my home country, Bosnia and Herzegovina. As you know, not only Bosnia and Herzegovina, but also most of the emerging democracies in the Balkans enjoy modern and forward-looking media legislation. We can openly say that they almost have it all when it comes to an advanced legal and regulatory framework enabling free expression to thrive. But it is not that simple. I use this moment to pose several questions: if there are good laws, then why do we still face severe problems in relation to media freedom, why do we stagnate and sometimes even move backward? Where does the problem lie? And, more importantly, how can we solve it and move ahead?

What Bosnia and Herzegovina shows us is that good laws in themselves are not enough. Without their good implementation, they are only documents filled with unrealized potential. In countries that struggle with similar problems, we must stress over and over again: without the full implementation of valid legislation, without genuine political will, without a comprehensive understanding of the media's role in a functioning democracy, without the creation of a safe environment for journalists to do their work, and without true commitment by all actors, these countries risk falling far behind international standards.

Apart from unmet expectations and disillusioned citizens, we all know that the consequences of politicized and misused media could be very serious. In conclusion, let me assure you, dear Commissioners, that I will not hesitate to openly and vigorously remind any country of their responsibilities toward implementing the OSCE commitments to the freedom of the media.

I am also asking you to use this opportunity today and send a clear message to the governments of all OSCE countries to do their utmost to fully implement their media legislation safeguarding freedom of expression. The governments have the power to create an environment in which media can perform their unique role free of pressures and threats. Without this, no democracy can flourish.

Thank you for your attention.

HONORING COLONEL EDWARD J. KERTIS FOR HIS DISTINGUISHED SERVICE TO THE RESIDENTS OF GEORGIA

HON. PAUL C. BROWN

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 9, 2010

Mr. BROWN of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Col. Edward J. Kertis for a distinguished career and the outstanding help that he has been to me, my staff, and the people in my district.

Col. Kertis assumed command of the Savannah District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, on June 29, 2007. Since his appointment, he has been responsible for a \$4 billion military design and construction program; water resources planning, design and construction; hazardous, toxic and radiological waste cleanup; and real estate activities.

Residents of my district are especially grateful for his help with water resources management during an historic drought. As the rains finally began to return, Col. Kertis took the unprecedented step of stopping flow from Thurmond and Hartwell Dams, allowing the lakes to fill while water was flowing into the Savan-

nah River from flooding creeks and streams. This common-sense decision provided economic relief to those communities who rely so heavily on the preservation of the beautiful lakes and parks of the upper Savannah River. But he has served his country in other ways as well.

Prior to his assignment to the Savannah District, Col. Kertis commanded the Walla Walla District, USACE, in Washington State from 2002–2004. He has also served as a platoon leader, staff officer, and battalion executive officer in the 27th Engineer Battalion; company commander in the 41st Engineer Battalion; and engineer company commander in the 1st Special Forces Operational Detachment—Delta. He was also the inaugural commander of the Northern District, Gulf Region Division, Iraq, during Operation Iraqi Freedom, where he managed construction projects in support of Coalition forces and the Iraqi government.

I ask my colleagues to join me in thanking Col. Kertis for his service to the nation and the dedication he has given his duties, and in wishing him all the best as he assumes his new assignment as Pacific Ocean Division Commander.

HONORING ROCK BRIDGE BOYS  
HIGH SCHOOL TENNIS TEAM

HON. BLAINE LUETKEMEYER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 9, 2010

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the Rock Bridge High School Boys Tennis Team on their outstanding season.

The young men and their coaches should be commended for all their hard work throughout the regular season and bringing home the Class 2 State Tennis Championship to their school and community.

I ask that you join me in recognizing the Rock Bridge High School Tennis Team for a job well done.

KEN GRIFFEY, JR.

HON. DAVID G. REICHERT

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 9, 2010

Mr. REICHERT. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the recently retired Ken Griffey, Jr. Griffey retired last week from Major League Baseball after hitting 630 home runs, driving in 1,836 runs, and scoring 2,781 times. I won't even attempt to quantify the OOOOHHS and AAAAHS.

Griffey joined the Seattle Mariners in 1989, when I was with the King County Sheriffs Department. At times, I was assigned to provide security at many of the sporting events held at the Kingdome. At these events, I watched an assortment of professional athletes practice their trade in Seattle. When Ken Griffey, Jr., took the field, he scaled walls, hit tape-measure home runs, and rounded the bases with a smile on his face that made spectators instant fans. His career was extraordinary, his accomplishments legendary, and his impact on baseball in the Northwest may never be equaled.



Griffey played with exuberance and passion and created memories for baseball fans around the world.

A lot of Mariners fans were upset with Griffey when he left the Seattle Mariners after the 1999 season. Madam Speaker, I was not one. As a father, I completely understood Griffey's desire to be close to his family and play a bigger role in raising his children—a role too many men abdicate. Plus, Madam Speaker, his departure allowed for his joyous return, beginning in 2007 when he returned to Safeco Field in Seattle as a member of the Cincinnati Reds. The homecoming crowd cheered with delight, Griffey barely contained his emotions, and everyone knew "The Kid" would one day call Seattle home again.

It's fitting that Griffey ended his career in a Seattle Mariners uniform because he deserved to leave the game as a legend—and I believe his legend was established in Seattle. Madam Speaker, my staff and I wish Ken Griffey, his wife, and their three children the very best in the future. He changed baseball in the Northwest forever and his contribution won't be forgotten.

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HONORING THE LIFE OF FIRST  
LIEUTENANT JOSEPH THEINERT

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**HON. TIMOTHY H. BISHOP**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 9, 2010*

Mr. BISHOP of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise today humbly and with profound sadness to mark the death of Army First Lieutenant Joseph Theinert, who was killed in action in Kandahar Province, Afghanistan on June 4th.

A resident of Sag Harbor, in my Congressional district, Lt. Theinert graduated from Shelter Island High School in 2004. He distinguished himself in athletics, was Student Council president and was crowned king of his senior prom.

Deeply affected by the September 11th attacks, Lt. Theinert earned a BA degree from the University of Albany in 2008 and was commissioned a second lieutenant in May 2008 through the Siena College Reserve Officer Training Corps program. He had been deployed for one month in Afghanistan, attached to 1st Squadron, 71st Cavalry Regiment, 1st Brigade Combat Team, 10th Mountain Division.

Lt. Theinert was leading his platoon on a mission in Kandahar Province when they came under hostile fire and were forced toward an area mined with IEDs, according to his commanding officer. He disabled one IED and started to disarm a second one when the trigger mechanism sounded; however, he was able to warn the twenty men under his command to get back before the device exploded. Lt. Theinert was the only soldier killed in the incident, and his final heroic and selfless act fulfilled the responsibility of an officer to keep his men safe and in the fight.

I offer my deepest condolences to Lt. Theinert's mother and stepfather, Chrystyna and Frank Kestler of Mattituck and Shelter Island; and to his father and stepmother, James and Cathy Theinert of Sag Harbor. I also join

these closely-knit Peconic Bay communities in mourning the loss of a young citizen of enormous potential, and note with a heavy heart that two sons of the small village of Sag Harbor have made the supreme sacrifice since September 11th.

Madam Speaker, among Lt. Theinert's possessions, his family found a memory book entitled: "My Life by Joseph Theinert." I read the noble sentiments he inscribed on its inside cover into the RECORD of this House, in the hope that others may draw inspiration from them, as I have:

The years of our youth that we will never forget.

When life was simple and all we knew was love.

The people in this book is why I choose to fight.

It is for them that I am willing to lay down my life.

There is nothing glorious about war, but I will go to it to keep the people I love away from it.

9/11, Never Forget.

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HONORING CF INDUSTRIES AND  
ITS PALMYRA TERMINAL EM-  
PLOYEES FOR REACHING AN IM-  
PRESSIVE SAFETY MILESTONE

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**HON. BLAINE LUETKEMEYER**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 9, 2010*

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize CF Industries and its Palmyra Terminal employees for reaching an impressive milestone: 15,000 consecutive safe days on the job. This is a proud achievement showing a commitment of the highest level of safety.

Employees at CF Industries' Palmyra Terminal receive ammonia by pipeline and by barge on the Mississippi River from the company's Donaldsonville nitrogen complex and ships ammonia to customers via truck. If not for the hard work of these individuals, agriculture in our area would certainly suffer. These individuals do their jobs well, and that shows through the safety they exhibit while on the job. It is with great pride that I can share this news of this achievement. The Palmyra employees have set the bar high for safety standards in their community and the 9th District of Missouri.

I am proud to represent this fine company and this terminal in Congress. Congratulations to every employee at the Palmyra Terminal on your outstanding safety record and commitment to excellence.

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COMMEMORATING THE 150TH ANNI-  
VERSARY OF THE CITY OF  
MANISTIQUE, MICHIGAN

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**HON. BART STUPAK**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 9, 2010*

Mr. STUPAK. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize the city of Manistique, Michigan on its

150th anniversary. On June 19, 2010 the residents of Manistique will celebrate this sesquicentennial anniversary along with a color guard, presentations from local, state and federal officials and entertainment for all.

Located in Michigan's Upper Peninsula, where the waves of Lake Michigan meet the currents of the Manistique River, the city's history is one of commerce, ingenuity and immense pride. The small settlement on the Manistique River had no name until 1860 when Charles Harvey built a small dam on the river to power a sawmill. Initially named Epsport, after his wife's family name of Eps, the name was changed to Manistique in 1885. The name Manistique was adapted from a Native American word for vermilion, because of the reddish tint of the river's water.

Development of the area began in 1872 when Abijah Weston bought the Chicago Lumber company and brought it to Manistique. Manistique was ideally situated to take advantage of the timber industry boom from the 1880s through the 1920s. As a lumber transfer town, timber that was cut further north was sent down the Manistique River, sorted at Manistique and then sent by boats across Lake Michigan to towns for processing. The use of water transportation was vital for the survival of the community—until 1888 when the Soo Line Railroad began to serve the Manistique area, the only way to reach the city was over water.

As the timber industry declined, limestone production and the pulp and paper mill, along with tourism following World War II, became the area's major industries.

Still standing as a testament to the vibrant history of Manistique are the 200-foot brick water tower built in 1921–22 when the municipal water system was installed and "Siphon Bridge," an engineering marvel built in 1916 which allowed the Manistique Pulp and Paper Company to maintain the river's water level several feet above the bridge's roadbed to support a "floating bridge." The East Breakwater Light at the mouth of the river guided Lake Michigan vessels with its Fourth Order Fresnel Lens at the east end of the harbor beginning in 1917. More recently, a boardwalk nearly two miles long was constructed along the shoreline offering access to East Breakwater Light, picnic grounds, a fishing pier, and a wide variety of wildlife.

Today, Manistique provides residents and visitors alike with some of the best natural surroundings the Upper Peninsula has to offer. During summer months there is hiking in the Hiawatha National Forest, swimming in Lake Michigan and canoeing down the Manistique River. Winters bring up to 71 inches of snow for cross country skiers to glide through trails around Indian Lake and snowmobilers and sledders who want to try their hand at "Thunder Bowl."

Madam Speaker, Manistique is a city rich in history and natural beauty. From the humble beginnings of a small sawmill situated on the shores of Lake Michigan the city and its residents have grown and evolved into a premier destination in Michigan's Upper Peninsula. Madam Speaker, as residents celebrate this sesquicentennial milestone, I ask that you and the entire U.S. House of Representatives join me in honoring the city of Manistique on its 150th anniversary.

RECOGNIZING THE JACOB MILLER  
TAVERN ON ITS HISTORICAL  
MARKER DEDICATION

**HON. STEVE AUSTRIA**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 9, 2010*

Mr. AUSTRIA. Madam Speaker, on behalf of the people of Ohio's Seventh Congressional District, I am honored to recognize the Jacob Miller Tavern on the occasion of its historical marker dedication.

In 1806, this tavern, a two story hewn log structure was built by Jacob Miller. This building was recently purchased with the purpose of restoring this building to its original condition.

Somerset is famous for their local native General Philip Sheridan. The Jacob Miller Tavern will be another landmark that Somerset will be known for.

The Historical Society of Perry County and the Perry County Historical Museum are to be commended for their many years of support for Somerset and the Somerset National Register Historic District. Thus, it is with great pride that I congratulate them on this great occasion and extend best wishes for the future.

RECOGNIZING THE DEDICATED  
SERVICE OF UNITED STATES  
AIRMAN LIEUTENANT COLONEL  
RICKEY O. HARRINGTON

**HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON**

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 9, 2010*

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and pay tribute to Lieutenant Colonel Rickey O. Harrington, for 22 years of exceptional service and dedication to the United States Air Force.

Colonel Harrington will be retiring from active duty on September 30, 2010. He has most recently served as the Pentagon's Chief of Air Force Reserve Directorate of Personnel for the Chief Force Support and Sustainment Branch.

As a native of Itta Bena, Mississippi, Colonel Harrington entered the Air Force in 1988 as a distinguished graduate of the Reserve Officers' Training Corps at Mississippi Valley State University.

In October 1988, then Second Lieutenant Harrington began his career as a Personnel Officer in the Consolidated Base Personnel Office at Bergstrom Air Force Base, Texas.

In September of 1990 Colonel Harrington became newly promoted First Lieutenant Harrington and was deployed to Operation Desert Shield/Desert Storm as Chief, Personnel Support Contingency Operations Team at Al Minhad Air Base, United Arab Emirates providing the full scale support to nearly 3,000 airmen.

Colonel Harrington would go on after this deployment to serve in a variety of staff and leadership positions both stateside and overseas. During his career he has served as a Section Commander, Executive Officer, Squadron Commander, Inspector and Action Officer at the wing and Headquarters level. Most notably, he was on-duty as Executive Officer to the Director of Personnel Accountability at the Air Force Personnel Center responsible for running the Air Force Casualty Operations Center during the bombing of Khobar Towers where 19 brave service men lost their lives and during the airplane crash in Germany carrying then Secretary of Commerce Ron Brown. During this crisis, Colonel Harrington ensured that all levels of leadership were kept abreast of ongoing issues and ensured humane and dignified notification of next of kin while honoring the memory of those who fell in these tragedies.

He also served as the Deputy Support Group Commander at Khandahar Air Base, Afghanistan in 2003 in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. Over the past 4 years Colonel Harrington has worked tirelessly on behalf of the Air Force Reserve as the lone active duty member on their Personnel Staff.

As the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan have led to increased use of our reserve forces, he has championed many initiatives, both in policy and in law, that have enhanced recruiting, retention, benefits and entitlements for these dedicated airmen.

His efforts have helped to sustain a viable, ready trained force capable of meeting the needs of Combatant Commanders to protect our Nation and achieve objectives of national interest.

In addition to upholding the highest standards of professional conduct as a military officer, Colonel Harrington has also labored to enhance the communities he's lived in through his affiliation with various churches, civic organizations and as a life member of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Incorporated.

Madam Speaker, I ask my Colleagues to join me in expressing our sincere thanks to Colonel Harrington and his family for their unwavering support of our country and their dedication to preserving our Nation's freedom. Congratulations, and thank you for your service.

TRIBUTE TO GARY WAUTERS

**HON. TOM LATHAM**

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 9, 2010*

Mr. LATHAM. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Gary Wauters of West Marshall, Iowa who is celebrating his retirement from the West Marshall Community School District.

Gary, the only art teacher in the West Marshall School District, devoted 40 years to facilitating his students' creativity in the classroom. Gary takes pride in the work his stu-

dents have produced over the years, especially stained glass artwork, which was a staple in his curriculum. In his retirement, Gary plans to continue his artwork in his home studio.

I commend Gary Wauters for his dedication to the students he has taught over the years and to the West Marshall School District. Gary inspired thousands of students to embrace their creativity and the lessons he taught will influence people for ages to come. I am honored to represent Gary and his family in the United States Congress and I wish him the best of luck in his future endeavors.

COMMENDING WEBSTER CITY  
SCHOOL DISTRICT RETIREES

**HON. TOM LATHAM**

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 9, 2010*

Mr. LATHAM. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize the retirement of sixteen exemplary teachers and staff members from the Webster City School District of Webster City, Iowa and to express my appreciation for their dedication and commitment to these schools and their community.

Collectively these sixteen teachers and staff retirees have served the school district for 440 years. Among these notable faculty members: Linda Moenck served for 31 years, Dave Niggemeyer taught in the district for 35 years, Debra Niggemeyer as well as Gayle Olson served 32 years, Carolee Woodward taught in the Webster City Schools for 41 years, Donna Foster served for 24 years, JoAnn Robb as well as Sally Crouch served 30 years in the district, Mike Larson served 35 years, Gary Moenck has served 34 years, Faith McDowell served 12 years, Holly Riemenschneider taught for 9 years, John Kidney served the district for 39 years, Sharon Conder served 9 years in the district's food services department, Karen Draeger served for 26 years, and Nancy Spire served 21 years in the Webster City Schools.

These educators and faculty and their dedicated service underscores the value that Iowa has always placed on education. Every student who has gone to school in Iowa knows a great teacher or faculty member like this group of sixteen, and every community in the state does everything it can to make sure students have the best possible chance to succeed. Iowans know that the best way to invest in the future of our state is to invest in the education of our children.

I consider it an honor to represent these sixteen distinguished teachers and staff members of the Webster City Schools in the United States Congress, and I wish them all a long, happy and healthy retirement as they continue to serve their community.

## SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate on February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules Committee—of the time, place, and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled, and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Thursday, June 10, 2010 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

## MEETINGS SCHEDULED

## JUNE 15

9:30 a.m.

## Armed Services

To hold hearings to examine the situation in Afghanistan; with the possibility of a closed session in SVC-217 following the open session.

SD-G50

10 a.m.

## Judiciary

To hold hearings to examine the nomination of James Michael Cole, of the District of Columbia, to be Deputy Attorney General, Department of Justice.

SD-226

2:30 p.m.

Energy and Natural Resources  
Energy Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine S. 3460, to require the Secretary of Energy to provide funds to States for rebates, loans, and other incentives to eligible individuals or entities for the purchase and installation of solar energy systems for properties located in the United States, S. 3396, to amend the Energy Policy and Conservation Act to establish within the Department of Energy a Supply Star program to identify and promote practices, companies, and products that use highly efficient supply chains in a manner that conserves energy, water, and other resources, S. 3251, to improve energy efficiency and the use of renewable energy by Federal agencies, S. 679, to establish a research, development, demonstration, and commercial application program to promote research of appropriate technologies for heavy duty plug-in hybrid vehicles, S. 3233, to amend the Atomic Energy Act of 1954 to authorize the Secretary of Energy to barter, transfer, or sell surplus uranium from the inventory of the Department of Energy, and S. 2900, to establish a research, development, and technology demonstration program to improve the efficiency of gas turbines used in combined cycle and simple cycle power generation systems.

SD-366

## Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

To hold hearings to examine the health impacts of the Gulf of Mexico oil spill.

SD-430

## Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

To hold hearings to examine protecting cyberspace as a national asset, focusing on comprehensive legislation for the 21st century.

SD-342

## Intelligence

To hold closed hearings to consider certain intelligence matters.

SH-219

## JUNE 16

9:30 a.m.

## Veterans' Affairs

To hold hearings to examine Veterans' Affairs health care in rural areas.

SR-418

10 a.m.

## Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

To hold hearings to examine the nomination of John S. Pistole, of Virginia, to be Assistant Secretary of Homeland Security.

SD-342

10:30 a.m.

## Appropriations

## Defense Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2011 for the Department of Defense.

SD-192

2 p.m.

## Aging

To hold hearings to examine the retirement challenge, focusing on making savings last a lifetime.

SD-562

2:30 p.m.

## Appropriations

## Financial Services and General Government Subcommittee

To hold an oversight hearing to examine Federal payment of interchange fees, focusing on how to save taxpayer dollars.

SD-192

## Energy and Natural Resources

## Public Lands and Forests Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine S. 3294, to establish certain wilderness areas in central Idaho and to authorize various land conveyances involving National Forest System land and Bureau of Land Management land in central Idaho, S. 3310, to designate certain wilderness areas in the National Forest System in the State of South Dakota, and S. 3313, to withdraw certain land located in Clark County, Nevada from location, entry, and patent under the mining laws and disposition under all laws pertaining to mineral and geothermal leasing or mineral materials.

SD-366

3 p.m.

## Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

## Federal Financial Management, Government Information, Federal Services, and International Security Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine the Gulf of Mexico oil spill, focusing on ensuring a financially responsible recovery.

SD-342

## JUNE 17

9:30 a.m.

## Armed Services

To hold hearings to examine the New Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty (START) and the implications for national security programs.

SD-106

2:30 p.m.

## Intelligence

To hold closed hearings to consider certain intelligence matters.

SH-219

3:30 p.m.

## Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

## Oversight of Government Management, the Federal Workforce, and the District of Columbia Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine closing the language gap, focusing on improving the Federal government's foreign language capabilities.

SD-342

## JUNE 24

9:30 a.m.

## Energy and Natural Resources

To hold hearings to examine S. 3452, to designate the Valles Caldera National Preserve as a unit of the National Park System.

SD-366

## JUNE 30

9:30 a.m.

## Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry

To hold hearings to examine farm bill reauthorization, focusing on maintaining our domestic food supply through a strong United States farm policy.

SR-328A

## JULY 1

9:30 a.m.

## Veterans' Affairs

To hold hearings to examine veterans' claims processing, focusing on if current efforts are working.

SR-418

## JULY 21

9:30 a.m.

## Veterans' Affairs

To hold hearings to examine improvements to the post-9/11 Government Issue (GI) Bill.

SR-418

## POSTPONEMENTS

## JUNE 17

10 a.m.

Energy and Natural Resources  
National Parks Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine the future of the National Park System and to consider the recommendations of the National Parks Second Century Commission in its report "Advancing the National Park Idea".

SD-366